

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to ask Senator Vard Johnson, the Chairman of the Revenue committee, a question for clarification. Senator Johnson, do businesses pay any sales tax on utilities?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: No.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Do you have any figures at all on what they might pay if they did pay sales tax on utilities?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: \$14 million.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Fourteen nine what?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: \$14 million.

SENATOR HIGGINS: \$14 million a year businesses are saving?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes, ma'am.

SENATOR HIGGINS: By not paying sales tax on utilities, and this bill would also give them another tax relief or businesses are excluded from this bill.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: No, this bill as drafted would provide businesses tax relief.

SENATOR HIGGINS: So businesses would then get the property tax relief...

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: ...in addition to saving \$14 million on the sales tax on utilities?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Senator Johnson.

PRESIDENT: The chair recognizes Senator Miller. And then I have a request for recognition from Senators DeCamp, Lamb and Vard Johnson. Senator Miller.

SENATOR MILLER: Mr. President and colleagues, I think this bill is an excellent bill that gets better all the time and