

everybody. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: May we have order in the Chamber, please. (Gavel.) The conversational level is a bit high for the speakers to be heard. This Chair would take the privilege to announce in behalf of Senator Haberman that there are 20 high school students in the north balcony from Stratton-Palisade High accompanied by their teacher. And in the south balcony are 16 students from Wayne State College who are guests of Senator Conway and they are accompanied by Professor Kathy Conway. If you'd all stand we'd like to welcome you to your Nebraska Legislature this morning. We are on the DeCamp amendment to LB 691 and next to be recognized is Senator Schmit and then Senators Wesely and DeCamp. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I agree that what Senator DeCamp is attempting to do is very unorthodox and I can see the concern that has been expressed by Senator Lundy. I know the concern that is felt by every subdivision of government who has taxes due and collectible upon property which may or may not be worth what it is mortgaged for, but I do believe there may be another factor involved here in this instance. People who have paid to the Copple, to Commonwealth money in lieu of taxes that was never further transmitted to the city or the county as was their responsibility, I believe have a double reason to be concerned about now being asked to forward some of the money that might be reimbursed to the depositor when it will then go for taxes which they have already paid or thought they had paid. Secondly, I have asked repeatedly for information relative to when the taxes first began to be delinquent from Commonwealth and I have had a very difficult time securing information relative to when those delinquencies first became apparent. It seems to me that there may be in this instance, in this particular instance, a greater degree of responsibility upon the part of the City of Lincoln and the County of Lancaster than is true in most instances of financial failure and its impact upon other subdivisions of government. If that is in fact true, then I believe that the city and the county do have a responsibility to share in the losses notwithstanding the fact that otherwise I would not agree to that. I would hope that we would look at this in a more objective manner and realize that the major purpose of these bills are to reimburse the depositors. We are trying to in effect put