

year of sales. So I don't think that we are going to convince the people anywhere in a residential area outside of agriculture and business that we are doing them a favor. I talked to a group of ladies this morning and explained to them what was happening and I certainly found no one that was disagreeing with me on property tax relief when we are going to give them less than a \$100 in some cases yet force them to pay an extra cent in sales tax. It is unfortunate that we can't come to some agreement. I believe that 712 actually was the best bill we had but that failed to advance. So it is going to grieve me very much to have to vote for a kill motion because we have discussed this at length. I think we all agree there has to be something done, but this is certainly not the way to go on the amendment that is following and I checked with the Clerk. There are no further amendments, so I will vote for the kill motion and urge the members of this Legislature to do likewise because otherwise we are going to get a lot of criticism that we are giving a break again to business and agriculture and I know and understand that agriculture has got a problem. And before I close I do want to say one thing. In the last couple months three packing plants have closed in my area, plus Falstaff Brewery, which amounts to about 1200 people that are out of work. Now I think that they will be sitting back and hoping that we are going to give them some property tax relief but when I tell them on their unemployment they are going to have to pay another cent of sales tax, they are going to be pretty upset about that and yet tell them that they will get less than a \$100 on a property tax relief package that we will approve here this year. So I urge the members of this Legislature to vote to indefinitely postpone LB 38 and perhaps maybe we can come back with 712 when we realize that we are doing no one a favor by increasing the sales tax one cent. I understand the Appropriations Committee last night have set a budget limit and they are not funding the general homestead exemption that we have already sent out forms. I know in Douglas County the people have sent it back thinking they are going to get \$75 property tax relief but if it is not funded, as Senator Lamb said, it will have to come out of the local county boards and the property tax will go up again. We are in for a rude awakening when we go back after this session is over and say again this year there will be no property tax relief and possibly an increase. Thank you very much.