

gets for collecting the tax, \$273,000. It doesn't take anywhere near that amount of money to do what it is they do, whatever that is. I think not only is Senator Haberman's amendment bad, not only is the committee amendment bad because it raises the amount of the tax, plus the amount that the counties get, the whole bill is bad, the whole concept is bad. But, since we are not going to be able to root out the evil that has been allowed to exist all of these years, we should not make it any worse. So after they get through knocking around these amendments, and I hope defeating them, I'm going to offer a motion to kill the bill. I don't think it is good. If the state is going to extort money, the amount it extorts ought to at least be enough to justify, in some people's minds, what it is doing. If Senator Johnson got strapped financially and went out on these streets of Lincoln, and slapped some little kids as they were coming out of the school and took their lunch money and suckers from them, because he had financial problems people would be very, very upset with Senator Johnson. If Senator Johnson, as sophisticated and decent as he is, put a pistol on a clerk in a bank and said give me some money, we would think poorly of him. But if Senator Johnson took a job with a large financial firm and used his skill and ability in manipulating figures and covering his trail, and made off with some money that he intended to pay back when he was able, we might say Vard shouldn't have done that. But if Vard is going to do something wrong, this is the type of wrong thing I would expect Vard to do. If the Legislature is going to be asked, Senator Johnson, to gouge people, to impose an additional hidden tax, the amount to be realized should be sufficiently large to justify the wrong. But if you are going to try to extort too much money from the class of people affected by LB 236, they would then put out a cry because the class is not really that big when you compare it to all of society which is supposed to pay taxes to help carry out the duties of government. I would like to ask Senator Johnson a question for the record, if I may. Senator Johnson, is this money earmarked?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: No.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And this is not a user fee?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: No.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It will be commingled with other money in