

Then next year we say, sorry, counties, we don't have the money. So we don't do it. Then the next year we say, we're going to pick that up. Then we don't have the money, so we say, sorry counties, we're renegeing the second time. The third time we say, counties, we are going to pick this up over the next three-year period. So we come back the third time and we are just as consistent as we can be in saying we are going to renege again, counties, sorry about that, I know you took it into your budget last year, and the year before, and the year before, three years in a row, but the Legislature, being true to form, we are renegeing again this year. So I guess the counties should get used to us pretty soon. Maybe that is why we are so popular with the counties is that we are consistent at least and we keep taking things away from them, ways that they can make ends meet. We say, counties, you are a good old buddy, we'll just keep socking it to you, and we do it. So I'm not so hot about this bill any more. I don't know that I'm even for the committee amendments.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Chambers, in defense of yourself.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: In the fell clutch of circumstance, I have not winced nor cried aloud. Under the bludgeonings of chance my head is bloody but unbowed, Senator Vard Johnson. He thrashed me. He punished me. But the fact remains that I'm opposed to this bill and the method it is using to impose or raise a hidden tax. Senator Haberman is correct. I've never brought up this issue before. There are literally thousands of issues in the statute books of this state that I'm even unaware of. But once they come within my purview, my obligation is to analyze, evaluate and make a judgment as to how to deal with those things. I feel this is a hidden tax. An increase is going to be brought on some people who are unaware of it and I know they are able to pay it. Senator Johnson, I'm helping some rich people by doing this by trying to keep this tax stamp low. Here I am supposed to be antibusiness just because I vote to increase the tax on corporations when Senator Johnson says I am against taxing, because I am against giving businesses exemptions from the sales tax. I think businesses ought to pay the sales tax on the utilities, Senator Vard Johnson. So give me the right target and I will be with you. But when we are going to use this method I'm opposed to it. It was attempted the other day on the birth certificates and the wedding licenses, or whatever they call those things,