

about the committee amendments as amended? If not, Senator Vard Johnson, would you like to close?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I hope that the material that you received this morning which carefully explains the committee amendments and shows how we have reduced the price tag of this bill from 44 million down to 23 million is adequate. I hope the committee amendments are put on. We can then discuss the bill at length but my first step would simply be to have the amendments put on the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, you have heard the closing on the adoption of the committee amendments. The question is, shall the committee amendments be adopted as amended? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. For those of you who have just come in, we are voting on the adoption of the committee amendments. I would appreciate a little help. If you care to vote, please do. We are voting on the adoption of the committee amendments. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 2 nays on adoption of committee amendments to LB 715, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The committee amendments are adopted. Now we're back to the bill. Senator Vard Johnson, would you like to talk about the bill the way it is amended?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Well, I will talk a little bit about the bill the way it is amended. I know it is sometimes difficult to follow what is happening particularly on a tax measure of consequence and this really is one. What we now have is a bill that will for the first time provide a sales tax on occasional sales, for the first time imposed is a sales tax on certain...on all commercial uses of energy and all business uses of energy and some production uses of energy, but will not provide a sales tax on farming uses of energy, ranching uses of energy, manufacturing uses of energy or transportation uses of energy. This bill will provide...will impose a sales tax on certain kinds of fairly small ticket items. This bill in addition will take a tax exemption that we created three years ago and a decent tax exemption that has in some respects gotten a little bit out of hand and will turn the exemption into a tax credit and will clean up the language and will result in some savings to the state, but still provide the kind of incentive that I think the sponsors originally wanted for the tax exemption.