

amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: All right.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, again I direct your attention to your blue book that you've got and you will discover as you move into the blue book that there is a page entitled, three pages entitled "Summary of LB 273", and then you will discover that...there are four pages entitled "Summary of LB 273" and then you will discover that there are two pages entitled "Detailed Summary of Committee Amendments to LB 273". Let me first talk to you a little bit about LB 273. The Revenue Department came to the Revenue Committee this year with a bill that it said initially was kind of housekeeping in nature, but the more we went into it with the Revenue Department, it became clear it was not housekeeping in nature, that the bill contained a whole host and variety of tax changes some of which were significant and some of which were not significant. But the Revenue Committee had a full afternoon of testimony on this bill alone and we had and again, if you look in your bill book, I think you'll discover the numbers of people who testified usually against the bill because they were testifying against one provision of it or another provision of it or what have you. We had lots and lots of people who came in and testified on the bill. The upshot was the Revenue Committee sat down a week or two after we did the bill, we heard the bill, and we began to go through these 38 different items. We went through the 38 different items that are contained in the bill to determine which of these 38 items were the best items to retain and which ones ought to be eliminated. So what I'm going to do is I'm going to take you through, if I might, the 15 items that we in effect are either eliminating or clarifying and those eliminations or clarifications are part of the committee amendments. The first one is this. Yes, you have a list. Senator Higgins, you have a list and my aide or our committee counsel will make sure that you get a list. If anybody doesn't have a list raise their hand and I'm sure that Deb Thomas will get them a list because we've got extra copies around for people to be able to follow and it is an important issue to follow along with. Lists are coming. If you don't have a list you can just raise your hand and a list will come. The first item is this. The Department of Revenue had suggested that we put a sales tax on interstate communications. Now we kind of thought that