

information, you will see that we need to take a longer range view of what is going on in the Nebraska economy. We have seen the beginning of problems. It is not an aberration. It is not a short term problem. We are talking about things that are going to be haunting us for the next few years. And in particular I think we should take a look at the assumptions that are being made about the effect of the agricultural economy on our revenues and this is reflected in some of the quotes that I have presented. Mr. President, could you get some order, please.

PRESIDENT: We will try, Senator Harris. Order in the Chamber, please. (Gavel.) Keep your conversation level down.

SENATOR HARRIS: This is a very important point. We are talking about the spending and raising of the tax monies for the next fiscal year and beyond. I particularly want you to pay attention to the first article which was written back in March as a response to a speech that was given by Mr. German who is one of the advisors to this committee that is determining our tax revenue projections for the Legislature. And in this article, in the yellowed part of the article, he is talking about a perception of moving to a free market system. He has a political perception as to what we are supposed to be doing. And then he says that we don't subsidize shoe stores so we shouldn't subsidize farms. I assure you that if he doesn't understand the difference between subsidizing a shoe store and its effect upon, say, McCook, Nebraska, Senator Vickers, and subsidizing the farms around McCook, Nebraska, then he has a real problem and we are going to be getting the wrong information. And if you look at the quotes, he says everything is all right. Mr. Purcell says everything is all right. He is another one of our advisors. Everything is all right. The agricultural economy does not count. Now to counter that, I want you to take a look over the weekend at the Rural Electric Nebraskan article about the agriculture and Nebraska's economy and its effects. Obviously, it has a great deal of effect. Unfortunately, we have to wait until these people are discredited completely before anybody is going to pay attention. Now that pertains to the national farm policy with a ridiculous free market system as well as these projections that are being made. I stand for prudent taxing and spending policies and I always have. I have been interested in this area for years. I know that we cannot