

May 14, 1985

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and it is asking each of you here to lower your resolve, to lower your resolve to provide greater tax equity and greater tax justice, and also necessary receipts so that we are not lock-stepped into an income tax increase or a sales tax increase. That is all that is happening. I oppose the amendment. I ask you to oppose the amendment.

**SPEAKER NICHOL:** Senator Beutler, then Senator Hannibal.

**SENATOR BEUTLER:** Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I would also rise to oppose the amendment. Senator Johnson indicated to you that if this amendment is adopted, it will most surely mean a raise in the sales tax or in the income tax. I assume that that is true, assuming that we don't make any cuts in expenditures. But another possible scenario is that you are dumping things back on property taxes. What I would hope to see us do is to make some significant cuts in spending and Senator Warner is going to be coming with you with some Appropriation Committee expenditure cuts, \$10 million worth or so. Of that amount, at least \$2 million of it is state aid, state aid money, a small proportion of it, but it is still 2 million bucks. It seems to me that if you pass this amendment, and we don't have this revenue bill, that we are going to have to make more cuts and that a substantial portion of those cuts are going to be state aid cuts, which means the only effect of adopting this amendment may well be to increase property taxes again, something we have been fighting all year long. We've got a real problem with that already. We've been trying to whip the property tax situation, and now, however, we are in a situation where we have to cut back state spending altogether, so we are not going to do as well with property taxes as we would have liked. I mean we have to face that. But if, on the other hand, we are going to exacerbate the problem by adopting this amendment, all you are doing essentially is shifting from what is probably roughly the equivalent of a sales tax, in this particular instance, if you are assuming that these costs are passed on to the consumers, which may or may not be true, shifting from a sales tax to more property tax. I don't think that that is what very many of you really want to do. Having made that point, let me ask you something, Senator Johnson, if I may so I...there are parts of this bill that I want to be sure that I understand. As I understand the bill now, it applies to retail and commercial establishments. Is that correct?

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