

increase. I predict before this is all over, I predict that we will be back next fall cutting this budget some more. Perhaps another two or three percent because this economy just is not very good, especially out in the rural areas. I'm sure that it is going to filter down to the urban centers like Lincoln and Omaha. I guess right now I would have a question for Senator DeCamp if he is around or Senator Vard Johnson. Would you, if we withdraw this kill motion, will you guarantee that you will not put a one percent in there, a one percent increase in state income tax?

SENATOR DECAMP: I would guarantee that I would personally oppose it, do everything to defeat it. By everything I mean things I haven't even thought of doing. The only thing I would support would be if somebody wanted to decrease taxes.

SENATOR HEFNER: You would like to see taxes decreased or the tax rate decreased.

SENATOR DECAMP: That is correct.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, now Senator Johnson, how do you feel? If we leave this bill alone will you guarantee us that you won't put the one percent increase in state income tax rate?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I told Senator Haberman that I would withdraw my motion and I will do exactly that. I'm not going to tie my hands so that forever and a day I'm bound not to put in a one percent increase in the income tax or a half a percent increase in income tax only because Lord only knows what the Legislature will do this afternoon on the budget bill. If it becomes necessary then you have to act responsibly. Which means in the end, sure, I would use this bill for an income tax rate increase or a sales tax rate increase if that is all we had left.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, so Senator DeCamp says he won't support a one percent increase in state income tax and Senator Johnson says perhaps he will. So we can go from there.

PRESIDENT: Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABBOD: Question.