

money, and we are going to make ourselves look good. I think it makes us look bad because it doesn't accomplish anything. This is not what we are here for, it is not what we are supposed to be doing. I oppose the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Abboud, then Senator Higgins.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, I think it accomplishes a lot. I think what it does is it tells the voters back in the district who is responsible for raising their taxes and I think that is what government is all about, accountability. They know who is responsible for what. When we increase the sales tax, we are the ones that are responsible for it. When we increase the income tax, we are the ones that are responsible for it. It is interesting that there is one county that won't be affected by this particular bill and that is Lancaster County. Lancaster County's valuations are at 100 percent. It in no way will affect Lancaster County but it sure as heck will affect my Douglas County area, and the people that signed onto this bill from Douglas County have received a number of telephone calls when the valuations came out. Now it is especially timely because the valuations that we talked about during the special session and last year are finally coming out this week, and with it the property tax bills have gone up, and I think that the voters, we owe it to the voters in this district to at least provide clear accountability. I am baffled why senators would oppose this bill when all it seeks to accomplish is to avoid confusion. It reduces the confusion to the voter. It says who is responsible for what. It provides clear accountability from the voter to the elected official. And there is not a whole heck of a lot to this bill, I will with agree with Senator Harris on that particular amount. It doesn't cost any money but it does provide accountability and it does answer a lot of questions to those residents back in Douglas County. I urge the support of the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, please, then Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. In looking at the committee statement, I see where the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce was in favor of this, and yet they say it doesn't affect Lancaster County. As far as it not accomplishing anything, maybe Senator Harris would be good enough to tell