

Is it possible for me to vote on a tax bill which will reduce the taxes on my farm? That's an immediate financial gain. Is it possible for us to vote on a tax bill that reduces the gasoline tax? Oh you say, well that's of general interest. It's also of a particular interest. Is it possible for Senator Lynch, my good friend and colleague, who we all know serves in this body and very ably so but is an employee of the Blue Cross-Blue Shield, to vote on a bill that impacts upon the insurance industry? We can go on and on and on. I think that you have here a situation where Senator Johnson, especially if we remove the word "immediate", might be prevented from voting on the Caboose Bill for instance. We had testimony yesterday, or the day before, Senator Johnson, that 93 percent of the injuries that occur in railroad transportation occur to those individuals who ride in cabooses.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Now that would indicate to me that there is a potential market there, a potential opportunity, for an attorney to represent those individuals and isn't an attorney then going to be able to vote to keep the cabooses on the train so that those 93 percent of injuries are available to that individual as an attorney? I think it's an interesting question. I want to just point out one more thing. I'm kind of interested because my record is clear, it is on the line, it is exposed and this very conservative body chose to adopt a policy that I'm sure under many other conditions would have been protested mightily when they took my business and declared it illegal without due process and at the same time, we find many similar situations where members of this body, in the course of their opportunity to serve the people as part-time legislators, must necessarily vote on a bill which not only has broad public interest, but personal interest. I think you've raised an interesting question. I'm going to thoroughly enjoy the rest of the morning, I can tell you that.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Pappas, you are next, however, may I introduce a couple of guests of Senator Schmit in the north balcony. They are Quinn Sabatka and Chris Sabatka of Ceresco, Nebraska. They are representing the Raymond Central Public School. Would you folks please stand. Thank you for visiting us today. Senator Pappas.