

them about this.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Um huh.

SENATOR VICKERS: I don't know.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Okay, thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator...were you through, Senator Hartnett?

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yes.

SPEAKER NICHOL: All right. Senator Abboud, you are next, but may I introduce some guests, under the north balcony, of Senator Howard Lamb. In fact a couple of them are out there with Senator Howard Lamb. His son and daughter-in-law, Dave and Donalee Lamb, are there and sons, Jason four years old, and Rodney two years old. Would you please welcome all of them. Jo is over there too. Thank you. Senator Abboud, please. Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I have very mixed feelings about the Vickers amendment. But the one thing the amendment does do, which is worthy of consideration and I may well support it, is that it does obviate the necessity of Senator Nelson and Senator Smith's bill, that we heard yesterday, because it just simply says that if valuations decline within a given political subdivision then whatever statutory limitations we have on mill levies, for that political subdivision, will...may be increased proportionately to the decline in valuations. And, as Senator Vickers well points out, that then in effect keeps those original lids on and allows only for expansions based on valuation declines. It doesn't allow for expansions based on need or any other factor. I suppose the drawback in the amendment is that it also, by its adoption, would prevent the Nebraska Legislature from really considering, on a carefully selected basis, those statutory lids that we have imposed because they are quickly eroded by virtue of this particular procedure. Those are my thoughts. I'm not positive yet exactly which way I'm going to go on it. But Senator Vickers does raise an important and interesting question for us.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Abboud, please.