

people have authority to broaden that tax base and thereby relieve the property tax. Then one other thing that I think we need to keep in mind as we look at this proposition is that if they had not wanted, if the Legislature had chosen some, let's see, about 18 years ago, 19 years ago, if they had not chosen to give the cities and counties authority for using the sales tax as a broadening of the base, then they should have written it in the law there. You don't try to change and close the door after the horse got out and I think Senator Vickers made mention of the fact that this would just be creeping, creeping, creeping, and I don't look at it that way. I look at this as a measure, simply a measure to authorize the governing bodies of our cities and our counties to use this tool when they start losing money in lieu of tax from federal government and other losses that we are all going to see come about. This is simply a tool to broaden that tax base and help the property tax. I would relinquish the rest of my time to Senator Pappas.

PRESIDENT: The question is the adoption of...Senator Pappas. You have about 2 1/2 minutes.

SENATOR PAPPAS: Mr. President, colleagues, I rise to again urge this body to adopt the Lundy amendment, just if nothing else on the fairness doctrine, on the fairness doctrine. We look at what we did for Omaha. We look at what we did for Lincoln, the opportunity to expand their sales tax base, Lincoln by the vote of the people. We have looked at other things that have been afforded, narrowing of tax base, and what needs to be done. We are talking about the loss of money in the Gramm-Rudman. I think the people came in and they gave justifiable reasons why they need this opportunity. I will read an article from the Lincoln paper a year ago dated February 26 by Senator Landis. Landis said his sponsorship of the local sales tax bill doesn't conflict with his proposal to add one percentage point to the state sales tax rate to finance state property tax relief. And I will agree with him, it doesn't. If the Legislature adds one percentage point to the state sales tax rate, Landis said, Lincoln voters would take that into account in deciding whether to approve the local sales tax increase. This gives the local people the opportunity to decide what they want to do with their tax base. Now there have been numerous bills in front of the Revenue Committee that basically will be narrowing the state's base and one of them is the parimutuel tax that came out, sat on the floor now,