

SENATOR ABOUD: Yes, Mr. President, colleagues, I rise in opposition to the amendment. My basic problem with the amendment is that I think that the members that are going to have to be making the tough decisions on taxes, when the final proposal does come about, will be those in the legislative body. I concur with a number of other members that have stated that the decision should be made by legislators, since we are the ones that are actually going to be voting on it in the end. My conclusion is to the purpose of the study and what will actually result from the study will be that we will find new and innovative ways to tax the people in the State of Nebraska. I think that is the bottom line. Senator Johnson, as others members in the body, have always been long-time proponents of the sales tax on services. And I will make the prediction at this time that one of the suggestions that will come from the study will be that we should have a sales tax on services. As noted in subsection 2, subsection (a) of the resolution, it states that tax...one of the areas that the study should look at is tax profiles as to who actually pays what taxes. And I think there will be some conclusions as to different groups that currently do not pay taxes directly to the state, one of them being in the area of services. I have some problems with it because I know what the conclusions are going to be. But at the same token, there has been some discussion in this body, as throughout the state, that our tax structure needs to be examined. I think if we are going to have a study, that it should at least be limited to those members that are in the body, and then bring in an outside consultant to look at it. At this particular time I would urge the body not to adopt this particular amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: I think there are no other lights here speaking on the amendment. I would ask Senator Johnson to close.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members if the body, I have not received a shred of support on the floor for the amendment. And because I have not received a shred of support on the floor for the amendment, I'm simply going to withdraw it, unless somebody objects. I hear no objections, it is withdrawn. My aide, however, did note, or first Senator Hall noted, and he called to the attention of my aide that when we had typed the resolution we had used the figure \$300,050. And we never intended for the resolution to be that cheap. We intended for it to be \$350,000. So I have another amendment on the desk to simply change subparagraph 5 to read "\$350,000" as opposed to