

new tax which will provide a tax for some people, but it will be taxing a lot of people that don't get to vote. Senator Vard Johnson had an excellent speech. If he isn't careful I'm going to be coming down to Omaha and campaigning for him in this election. I don't know if that would be good or bad. But anyway he's got it in perspective. We have raised taxes. We have the possibility of having a 6.5 percent sales tax come January 1. Think about that before you vote on this tax. You may have a 6.5 percent sales tax. I'm going to be voting against that other one that he talked about that adds one penny. But it could happen. So we have had, as I mentioned yesterday, we have had...this session has been tax, upon tax, upon tax. The numerous things that have been done for agriculture are minuscule. Senator Pappas says there are a lot of them, but I have not heard them be enumerated. This is one tax that is unfair, should not be enacted at this time. I ask you to vote to kill the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, I feel like the member of an endangered species. You know if we treated any of our wildlife, our animals the way we are treating those of us that live in the rural areas this year, there probably would be a hue and cry to do something about it. Senator Pappas indicated that we had done some things for agriculture. Let me articulate a few of the things that we've done. We've not...we took the funding totally away from the animal damage control program. We took the funding totally away from the noxious weed control program. We have created a mechanism, through our tax increase that we are going to have, whereby those of us that have to buy some things, whether we make any money or not, are going to have to pay a higher tax in the effort to hold down the taxes to those people that are making money. I would suggest to you that there are people making money in Nebraska today. Generally those people that are making money on money are the ones that are doing all right, and we're certainly not going to raise the taxes...the income tax of those people. Instead we are going to broaden the tax base, we're going to broaden the tax base to help the property taxpayer if you happen to live in a municipality. Now part of the argument is that because we've already done it for Lincoln and Omaha we're going to have to do it for the rest of the state. Well, I'll tell you I don't think there is an awful lot of, maybe I'm mistaken, but I doubt if there is an awful lot of farm equipment dealers within the City of Lincoln or Omaha who sell directly to those farmers outside.