

being aware that anything and everything we do here doesn't mean a thing. They say the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away. You can say the same thing about us, the Legislature. The Legislature giveth and the Legislature taketh away. To those senators who have been paying attention, thank you. To those who haven't been paying attention, it proves my point to Senator Abboud. This bill is going to pass because they have already made up their minds how they are going to vote. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: (Gavel). May we have order in the Chamber, please. Senator Abboud, do you wish to speak a second time? Senator Eret is next on the speaking list.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, I'd like to just go back to one small point that I talked about earlier dealing with my local Douglas County area and the kind of tax increase we're going to be facing next January. I have an article here from the Omaha World Herald that came out looking at the property tax requirements of local governments and they looked at different areas such as Omaha Public Schools, the city, ESUs, MAT bus, MUD, everybody and they see a situation here where the valuation is increasing. The valuation was increased this last year. As a rule they feel that the valuation increased approximately 13 to 15 percent and that there will be a proportional increase in the amount of taxes that these people are going to have to pay on their property taxes. I know in my little home town of Ralston, Nebraska, their budget increased over 10 percent and the school districts, Ralston and Millard School District, increased a proportional amount and they took advantage of the reappraisal, the reevaluation. So what I am going to be facing and the senators, at least in Douglas County, are going to be facing are property tax increases. I noticed here that the budgets increased for Omaha Public Schools over 12 percent. It's kind of interesting. I don't mean to focus so much on the public school system of Omaha, but I remember sitting at home one day when, this was back at the end of August when they were looking at their budgets and they had the Superintendent of the Omaha Public Schools come on and he said, well, we had this 12 percent increase in our budget, but do you know whose fault it is? The fault lies with the Legislature because of the tremendous cuts that we had to face. We had tremendous cuts in state aid to education. He did fail to point out about the increased salaries that a lot of the teachers and administrators were