

crossed out absolutely was an income tax that was permanent in nature that would be in effect in 1986. As I understood the conversation, he did not say that if you adopted this amendment he would veto it. What he did say is that he would look at the cuts side of the package in conjunction with the revenue side of the package and consider it from the perspective of the totality. Right now we're advancing a cigarette tax revenue raising measure, \$4 million or so. The cuts are at 18 as I understand it. If this amendment is adopted it would bring it down to somewhere around 17, is that right, Senator Lundy? 16, 17. All right so we'll be sitting with those two measures, we're sitting at somewhere around \$20 million and we're \$8 million short of what the Governor considers to be the appropriate gap to be closed. So I suppose at that point in time he is going to want some commitment with regard to the retroactive income tax measure and I think that's what we have to think about. So it would seem to me that if you're willing to do 2 percent at this point in time for higher education, then you ought to be prepared to do the retroactive income tax too if this is going to be put altogether. That was my reading.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Wesely, then Senator Morehead.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President, members, I haven't spoken much in the last few days and I may not last very long at this moment. My voice has had a virus and I have had difficulty talking. I can't stand idly by though without saying a few words, if I can possibly get them out. I think all the posturing that is occurring at this point between us and Governor is counterproductive. I think it makes no sense to continue this sort of game playing that both sides are engaging in at this point. The Governor is trying to structure a position and box us in to a certain route that he feels is in the best interests of this state. It is not a direction we want to follow. In our own situation we're trying to do a similar type thing from the conversation we just heard. Is that really in the best interest of the Nebraskans? If you think about it, we're in similar straits as the federal government is. We've got a President who refuses to raise taxes and a Congress that refuses to take the blame for doing it on their own and as a result we have an unbalanced federal budget that is destroying this nation because neither side, Democrat, Republican, Congress, President, will take the initiative and take the blame or credit for getting us out of the mess. This same thing is