

any reason to stay in Omaha. We are so myopic, cutting down state agencies that have a job to do and then praising these kind of outfits that have cut a new one for the public that has to pay for this expensive gas and some people cannot even afford to have heat in their homes. We are talking about solving a revenue shortfall. Some of the leading lights, called conservatism in the Legislature, say that they want the Revenue Department to reach out there and grab, by the throat, those who are not paying their taxes. Then they want to put a maniacal and a chain on the hand that is to do the grabbing and shackle it behind the back of the Revenue Department so that the taxes cannot be gathered while at the same time praising a corporation for gouging the public and then leaving. Senator Hannibal, I've been trying to get a bill through this Legislature to legalize betting on sporting events and I've had so-so success because it is still alive. The thing to make book on are things like this resolution and how much concern the state senators have for those agencies essential to running the government. The corporations will always win. The agencies and the people will always lose. Those are bets that are what they call locks, meaning you have very, very small chance of losing. I'm going to watch, again, on this vote and see what happens. Some people who are opposed to the amendment will say the relatively small amount of money is not going to make that much difference as far as changing the collection. Others have given information from what occurs in other states to show that if you cut this amount, and hinder the department's ability to collect revenue, the amount lost will be considerable, it will be substantial, Mr. Honorable Chairperson. So I am in favor of this amendment and I deplore this resolution. The only reason I mention it, it just now came to my desk, I hadn't seen it before. How grown people can sign something like this causes me to begin to understand how the same grown people can cut, in the way that they are doing, the agencies of government, education and all of the other things that are merely going to postpone a very serious problem for us until January. The same kinds of things that we are talking about now and trying to grapple with will be back in January only with a vengeance. The problem can only grow more severe. So what those people who feel that they have a broader perspective than running for re-election next time, or running for election for the first time for certain offices, will have to take a chisel and a hammer and try to pick at this rock and chip off every little bit that we can.