

some comments this morning, but I wanted it discussed again, I do not believe that we are doing justice if we do not give the agencies of government, that are responsible for the collection and enforcement, the resources they need to bring in the taxes that are due. I am not out here trying to beat legitimate businessmen over the head. What I am saying is that there are areas that are not being addressed. There are areas in plain fact where thievery is going on and we know about it. There are areas where taxes are not being collected because of negligence and also there are areas where other forms of chicanery are going on that the department is not able to supervise. The young lady told me in the area of the pickle enforcement it is extremely difficult, it is extremely difficult, notwithstanding the fact that there are a number of legitimate manufacturers and distributors of pickles, it is extremely difficult to maintain the surveillance that is necessary to assure that illegal pickles are not made available and that kickbacks are not in process which we know have taken place in the past, all of which costs the State of Nebraska money. You can sit over here, if you want to, and just beat down the budget, and you can say, well, we are going to save 40,000 bucks by taking away from the Department of Revenue and Brother Barrett is going to laugh all the way back to the bank across the river. I suggest it is a farce. It is worse than that. It's a travesty. It's an impediment to justice and we ought to give them the money they need for enforcement. I have some other ideas on that for the next session, but in this session here I would particularly like to have someone comment about it. I believe the amendment is justified. As I said earlier, I will offer you a chance later on to reduce some expenditures which then will help pay for this and I think it is a very worthwhile exchange. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator Warner, on the Schmit amendment, please.

SENATOR WARNER: Again, Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I appreciate the argument that Senator Schmit is making which I think is that a reduction in the authorized expenditure is going to cripple enforcement in revenue collection. I want to repeat again what I pointed out the other day, that is not the issue in the sense that I understand it. Of the money that was appropriated during the regular session in the A bill, nine people within the Department of Revenue, or the equivalent of that, was shifted over to the responsibilities of enforcement and associated cost. They, in addition, have on