

try to foist another temporary tax plan on the people of the State of Nebraska this year with a promise of better things to come. We will not get it done and we should not expect the people to swallow that.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Wesely.

**SENATOR WESELY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members, I, too, would rise in support of this amendment. It seems to be a consensus that always worries me when Senator Hefner and Senator Hall agree on any particular proposal, and they seem to. Nevertheless, it makes a lot of sense. I raised objection and concern about the fee proposal when it was first issued by the Governor. I received numerous calls to my office of people who shared that concern. I think the context of the issue has to be taken into account here. I don't think that the fee idea is all wrong and I think perhaps, obviously, it's something we need to look at over the interim. But one of the things we need to consider is we're looking for a short-term fix to the problems so that we can look at long-term solutions, and this change to a car fee should be considered in the context of a long-term solution, not a short-term fix. And I think, in that context, we need to spend more time with it and consider it more carefully. And so it doesn't seem to fit with the rest of the bill and I think it ought to be deleted, hopefully, without any impact in terms of the constitutionality of the rest of the bill. I think that's, obviously, a great concern. But, nevertheless, I did get a number of calls in to share my concern about the fee schedule and the Governor, to his credit, came back and tried to make an adjustment to make it more progressive. But we've had three or four years now of taxes, tax policy that shifted the burden from the wealthier to those that are the working poor and the working class and people objected to that, are still concerned about that. And when this proposal came forward and showed Cadillacs and other expensive cars having their fees cut in half or more, well, the old guy with the clunker out there trying to get by had their fees increased, obviously, following on the heels of the other tax policy changes, found objection, a strong objection, let me tell you, from the public. And so I think everybody's pretty much, as you can hear from the floor debate, inclined to remove this section of the bill. I think, in looking at the fee schedule, it was ultimately proposed in this by the Governor. Some of the increases for those old...older cars are not that significant. Increases from 8 to \$10 or 12 to \$15 or whatever are not