

do. I will probably support this amendment, although I have to say, Senator Warner, I think we are back at square one. I agree with Senator Schmit. I voted against the last amendment, particularly because I recalled LB 209 two years ago, when we voted to take off the sales tax on the access charges for long-distance telephone carriers. And so there is a perfect example of what we have been doing today, take one off, put one on. We have 13 days left after today, and it does seem strange to me, with all the conversations and meetings and hearings since the beginning of the session that we haven't come up with a plan yet. We have had so many different plans, and here we are on the floor trying all those plans out. And right now we are trying to look busy because the boss is coming, and the boss is the taxpayer, and that is who I get my letters and my phone calls from, the average taxpayer. And when Senator Kristensen talked earlier about the personal property, that is the worst thing to put taxes on is personal property. And I will go back to "Operation Honesty", and a lot of people tease me, kid my husband about Operation Honesty in the fifties, but, my friends, this was what it was all about is that people were not declaring personal property. The assessor came into the house, somebody may be sitting there playing the piano right in front of him, and he would say, you don't have a piano, do you? No, we don't have a piano. They didn't declare the piano. That is for the individual, that multiplies when you get into the larger ownership of larger items. So I do think that the personal property tax is really mixed up, and here we are trying to set policy and budget. We have got a budget to set and we have got to figure out how to get the money to pay for that budget. I am interested in Senator Schellpeper's amendment which is upcoming, either today or tomorrow, going into sales and income tax. Because when it comes right down to it, the sales tax, in particular, is the most equitable because everybody pays it. But no one really wants to raise the sales tax, and I am sure the individual taxpayer would not like that. One thing I would like to remind people, who are paying attention to this debate, I don't mean people on this floor, I mean people who are watching on EduCable and people who listen and pay attention to what happens, to remind them that the State of Nebraska does not levy a property tax on homes. That is in the Constitution. When we took our income tax and sales tax on, that was part of the deal that the State of Nebraska could not levy a property tax. And the reason I mention that is, again, is because I get calls from people saying that we raised their property tax. Well, in effect, we do because we don't set the proper tax base