

for the amendment, but they like the concept so I think maybe that's a plus. It's something that I'm sure the state has to address, but with that I'll close and I tell you what. I'm going to ask for a call of the house. I'd like to at least see how many green lights we'll get on this. All right, Loran, Senator Schmit can have the rest of my time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members, how much time do we have left?

SENATOR WARNER: Two minutes.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Ladies and gentlemen, if it were not so tragic it would be comical. We have been engaged in debate here for several days about how we're going to solve the tax dilemma and we have pussyfooted around every single major issue. Yesterday when we were engaged in various kinds of activity I told you that you would...didn't know what you were doing on the bill. If it became law the Governor would veto it. He announced this morning he would veto it and everybody "crawfished" and backed water and reversed what they had done yesterday and now we stand here and say, well of course we're going to look at this next summer and so forth. I just want to say this, ladies and gentlemen, that this Legislature is the policy-making body of the state. It is not the Governor's responsibility to draft tax legislation. That is our responsibility. We have handed it to him. If I were he or if anyone else who had any experience in that area were...

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...in that position, they would hand that hot potato right back to us. But the Governor has embraced it and he's going to have to toss it from one hand to the other and hopefully doesn't drop it. The facts are these, ladies and gentlemen, this is the kind of bill that we ought to have on deck and which we ought to hold public hearings and gather testimony. Let everyone come in and say why we don't want it or why we do want it and then once they've had that opportunity, let this body decide how to do it effectively. Everyone wants property tax relief, but no one wants to pay any sales tax. Everyone thinks the sales tax is too high, but you don't want to put up any more property taxes. One thing we've never agreed upon is it won't cut spending. This body is not going to cut spending nor will the local subdivisions. Senator Kristensen