

about the taxes Senator Lindsay is talking about, but if you're going to go with services, then you better go all the way because otherwise you're asking for trouble and someone's going to do it. Someone is going to file the charge...the complaint and today, believe me or not, we are litigation minded and then we may all know what it costs to pay the tax on the attorney fees because we'll all be hiring them. So I would suggest that we just not dismiss casually the idea that Senator Lindsay had because regardless of what you do, if you follow along the line we've gone thus far, you may very well have just encouraged the kind of problem that we are trying to avoid and I would guess that one of these days the court will lose their patience with us. You know, we had to rub their noses in the ashes about three times before they finally got a belly full and said, listen, you can't do it anymore. I was one of those that helped but, as of now, I think I'm learning my lesson, I'm not going to go down that road anymore, I don't think we should.

PRESIDENT MOUL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President. I rise in opposition to Senator Abboud's amendment to the amendment. The fact of the matter is right now, ladies and gentlemen, we're selective in the way we treat sales tax. We're selective in the way we treat it as it applies to various kinds of sales and we're selective in the way that we treat it as it applies to services. We tax services in this state. There are services that we currently tax right now. You don't hear about it but there's plenty of them; telephone services, cable TV services, admission, service contracts, leasing of property is a service, those are all taxed. Custom computer software when it's programmed for you, it's taxed, it's a service that you pay tax on. Entertainment, it's a service that you pay tax on it. We are selective right now in the way we deal with services. With the amendment that we adopted that I offered that put the services on five various professional areas, we became a little less selective. We...it should have eased your conscience, Senator Schmit, instead of gotten you riled up in terms of how we deal with the sales tax issue. And if we're going to be examined, I guess, in terms of a court challenge on our sales tax, I might not disagree that at some point we take a look at broadening the base. But those who offer the amendment argue that it's a broadening of the base that's not realistic, that that's not what's going to happen and