

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Elmer, followed by Senator Moore. Senator Elmer

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Madam President. Senator Schmit, you're correct, if you don't get up and take your knocks and fight, you don't get ahead. If you lay down before you get done, you've already capitulated. Personal property is an improper tax, it's been pointed out time and time again why. And, you know, Senator Warner has gotten up and several times, eloquently reminded us we can't talk about putting it all back on because it currently is under our law. What are we doing here then, you know? There are individuals among us, I'm sure, that would like to see inventories and the entire personal property tax base taxed. But, oh, no, not household goods, oh, no, not personal effects, oh, no, not those intangibles that represent a great deal of property. Personal property, as a class, is untenable because there's no way that you can exact it evenly. Yes, Senator Warner is right, it is all on right now, and we all know that. But what we are talking about now is a clear choice of good state policy, good ways to encourage economic development, good ways to encourage new businesses to come into the state. No wonder the large corporations in this state are supporting 1063, because it virtually precludes any business to come in and enter competition against them because of tax disadvantages by having to pay much more personal property tax through the depreciation system than is currently being enacted. We can point out to you these things over and over, but it seems that nobody is listening. But you go out in the country and talk to the people that are in my district, and in Loran's district, and in many of the districts in Omaha and Lincoln and they'll tell you exactly what we're trying to say. We know that we need to pay tax to support the services that government renders, but it should be a tax that everybody pays equally. As long as there are exemptions where some pay and some do not, it's unfair, it's unfair. LB 1063 does not address that, it still only taxes a few of the personal properties. All this to do about 3 percent of our total revenue. How easy it would be to exempt personal property and make up a little from the sales and income tax side, return it by a good method, I think Senator Hall is going to get to that, to the taxpayers of this state, and we will have something that the people will support, we will. The way this thing stands now, there's no way I can support either 1063 or the CA, and it ends with that. Thank you, Madam President.