

areas, but did it take into account the decline in valuation in urban areas as a result of the loss of business equipment from the tax rolls and the valuation schedules. I would suggest that it probably did not because I don't know how, as of this time, and on this short notice they would have the ability to pick that out. It seemed to me that it would be almost more than you could get done in this short period of time. Secondly, I don't know how you would be able to guarantee the accuracy of the numbers. But, lastly, as I said before, the numbers don't make any difference. If the numbers came out more favorable for my district, or more favorable for the rural areas, I would still be opposed to the bill because the bill is bad tax policy. I glanced through the bill again a little bit over the lunch hour, and I cannot imagine how that will be implemented if it passes tomorrow. I don't know how the local county officials can possibly get into gear and do everything we are telling them to do...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...and do it effectively and efficiently. In the meantime, I read the constitutional amendment and I raised some more questions relative to that constitutional amendment and its impact upon the bill. I would suggest, ladies and gentlemen, that it is time that we took this business seriously and that we not treat it casually, that we not treat it as a offhand type of an operation. We are addressing the tax policy of the State of Nebraska and it ought to be discussed and debated at length. I do not think it has been. I do not think most people understand it. I know the people in the State of Nebraska understand it better than we think they do. They don't like it. I ask you to support the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Before we continue with debate, I would like to call the senators' attention to the south balcony. Guests today of Senator Lowell Johnson are 40 fourth graders from Grant Elementary in Fremont, and their teacher. Would you please rise and be recognized. Welcome to the Chambers. Thank you. The speaking order now is Senator Lowell Johnson, Hefner, Elmer, Withem, and Schmit. Senator Johnson.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam President and members of the Legislature. I rise in support of Senator Schmit's amendment but I also can't let the moment pass without reminding