

The person that cannot afford to save money pays an additional tax to cover the tax that the rich people can take and I have some of those I will have you know but I am disgusted and thoroughly fed up with taxing my children to pay my taxes, taxing the poor people of this state to pay the taxes of those that are able to delay their income and put it in an exempt setup. Please folks, kill this bill. We've killed it in committee. If Senator Lewis and his committee ever finds a bill like this again, do not send it to Banking. Send it to the Government or to the Appropriations...Revenue Committee and we will take care of it as we have taken care of it for seven years.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Colleagues, Mr. President, I am having a little difficulty with my voice today so I hope you will bear with me. When we reach this kind of a bill I think it is important for us to take two steps back and take a long look at what we are doing because I think we are losing our focus and I think we are losing our sense of what our real responsibility is down here in the Legislature. Now I know the situation is bad with respect to property taxes in a lot of the counties around the state but let me tell you what the situation is in Douglas County. In Douglas County property taxes now are 2.6% of actual value and the national standard is that when property taxes exceed 1½% of actual value we are breeding tax revolt, you know, we are inviting tax revolt and we have things done to us like was done to the Omaha Public School system where a lid was imposed. It is going to be very very difficult for that school system to live with if they are going to provide adequate public education in Douglas County. Now here we are talking about a tax break for a very narrow few. We are talking about a tax break for the insurance companies and Senator DeCamp made some valid arguments about the contributions that large corporations and large insurance companies make to the economy of the State of Nebraska but aren't we really losing our focus when we concern ourselves with giving business and corporate interests yet another tax break, this time to the tune of \$309,000 which is ultimately only going to mean an increase in property taxes in places like Douglas County where property taxes are already far, far higher than they ought to be and far, far higher than we can withstand and we are going to be considering some major tax bills tomorrow, the most important tax bills of the session and I hope then we can remember what our proper focus has to be and that is property tax relief for people all over the State of Nebraska