

please hold your conversation down so we can hear the speaker. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I was afraid you would call their attention to what I was saying, Mr. Speaker, because I have found over the years it is much easier to move an amendment that costs \$100 million than it is to move one that costs 10,000 and I thought perhaps we might get that done this morning. I want to just say this. I don't expect a wide range of enthusiasm for this amendment, but at some point in time if you're going to buy yourself a new Cadillac, you've got to meet the payments. You've got to pay the price. We recognize, there have been many arguments here in support of the bill, we recognize there will be a cost. We have assumed that we may have some of that money right now. But I sit here and listen to Senator Moore with his little quips from time to time about how fast that money disappears and so, therefore, what I am saying is that why don't we do it the old fashioned way and just go up front and put the money in the bill and then we will find how many people are still strongly in support of the bill. We'll find out if we really mean it not just for this year, but for next year and the year thereafter and thereafter. It may well be we have to have a little adjustment in a few years but at least we know at the time we pass the bill what we are doing. I am perfectly serious about this. I am just as serious about it as I was when I came before the Revenue Committee and proposed a 2 percent increase in the sales tax and I think we have to recognize all of us want to be heroes. It is easy to go back to Bellwood and talk about property tax relief. It is not easy to go back to Bellwood or David City or Wahoo and explain that property tax relief means a 2 percent increase in the sales tax. It may mean selling the school lands and making an efficient use of that kind of funds. It may mean some other changes in what we're doing. Unfortunately, hard as it is for me to believe, I did not see anyone come forward and support my proposal to increase the sales tax by 2 percent with a possible exception of the Nebraska Wheat Growers. There should have been 3,000 people supporting that bill and I'm just calling your attention to the fact that this proposal is a serious one and if you really are serious in support of this bill and you want to help the teachers become more adequately compensated, then you must vote for this amendment. Do it now, do it up front, stand out here flat-footed and face the music and vote for this amendment. Once you do this, you're not going to have to apologize or equivocate or vacillate as to where the money is coming from.