

in the eighties. I don't believe that it's a good policy for the Nebraska Legislature to be allowing our Nebraska Supreme Court to be setting our tax policy and that may involve some major revisions in our Constitution. We apparently aren't going to deal with those particular major changes until some time later, at least not with this piece of legislation. It's a stopgap method, but I feel that it's a very dangerous method in that we are following the lead of the court. Now this particular amendment has a great deal of supporters in the body. Some of the members in the body, such as Senator Wese, look at the results of LB 775 in quite a different light than I do, as well as Senator Horgan and other members in the body. They look at the revenues that have been costs to the State of Nebraska as a result of 775 being enacted. I look at the jobs that have been created from 775. And while this amendment is a rather small amendment in the entire scheme of LB 829, I feel that it sends a message and that message is that the promises that we made to Nebraska businesses, the promises that were made to corporate headquarters are being broken. They are being changed. And it is rather ironic that we're considering this particular amendment dealing with mainframe computers when, I believe, next week they're going to be opening up that new facility in Omaha with US West that provides a large number of jobs to Nebraskans, a large number of high-paying jobs to Nebraskans in keeping with their construction of a large mainframe system, a huge building in downtown Omaha. It sends a bad message. Now those contractual obligations that the State of Nebraska obligated itself to provide tax breaks to companies that have already purchased or using corporate jets or for that matter, mainframe computers, I don't feel are being infringed upon even with this amendment. But look at what we have accomplished up to now with this piece of legislation. It has provided thousands of jobs for the state. It has provided economic hope for countless Nebraskans and at a time when we've seen...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR ABOUD: ...our state as well as other states had problems with their population. I think of Iowa with their loss of a congressional delegation or congressional delegate because of their loss of population and Nebraska still had that trend. If you look at our figures that have come out across the state on reapportionment, we still have more and more people leaving the state even though the population stabilized because of new