

think, a grand total of 20 plus hours. It did not...did not make it. I think that placing a sales tax on services, particularly this list of services that is in the bill, at this particular time is not a good thing to do for the Nebraska economy. Shifting the tax from personal property over to consumers and services does not make a...a good...a good tax policy at this particular point. There may come a time in Nebraska when we have to move to the sales tax on services. That time will be when the current mix of dollars spent between goods and services continues to shift to the point where the tax on goods sold is not sufficient to meet the revenue needs of our state. That will be the time. But we ought to be doing a sales tax on services when and if that time arrives for good policy reasons. What would be an example of a good policy reason, number one, is we're not getting enough revenue in under the tax on goods in order to make our economy flourish...or our budget...budget balance and pay for governmental services. A second good reason might be when there are very legitimate public needs that have to be met. Perhaps that will be paying for Medicaid in the future. Perhaps it will be providing other services for our people and the fact that there is genuine need for...for raising revenue to pay for new services. A third rationale for a sales tax on services might be a general...a general shift away from overreliance on all property taxes to a state source. Those might be valid policy reasons to enact the sales tax on services. This one is not. It is not a valid policy consideration to relieve property taxes on a very select group of Nebraska citizens, those involved in business, to take away their personal property tax and substitute that for a tax that is borne by the consumers of services in our state. It is not the time to do it. I think a sales tax on services is a significant enough policy shift in our state, it ought to be singled out, and that's the purpose of this amendment, for an up or down vote on whether or not you agree with a sales tax on services, whether or not you think imposing that sales tax on this list of services is a good idea. Now you can be a supporter of 1120 and find another source of revenue other than a sales tax on services to replace it if this goes on. Or you can be like me and that is...and not a supporter of 1120 and not feel an obligation to do that. But in either way, you ought to be looking at the question, is it right policy, tax policy for Nebraska today to impose a sales tax on services? I don't think it is. And those of you that agree with me, I would urge you to support it, support the amendment. If, on the other hand,...