

side of righteousness and angels, that it is you who has been asleep and not the Speaker. I rise to talk a little bit about something, we've talked about the process, we've talked about if we should enact this and the burden it may be to grocery store owners. There is one other part that Senator Warner certainly alluded to that we haven't spent much time talking about and that's the basic philosophy, if you believe in taxing a certain segment of the population in order to generate the revenue we need if we don't make the necessary cuts. Senator Warner said there is another option, one that I believe is more fair and more equitable and that would be if we believe at the end that we have not made enough cuts and need to generate revenue, it is to raise a sales or an income tax. A half a cent on a sales tax generates \$66 million. I understand that oftentimes that isn't palatable, but I also understand that when I talk with people and suggest that, they shake their heads that, yes, that is the most fair, that is the most equitable because when you do that you don't pick out one segment of the population. You treat urban and rural the same, you treat poor and wealthy the same, you treat smokers and nonsmokers the same, you treat those who are teetotalers and those who enjoy having a beer the same. To me, I think that as we sit here, philosophically, now is the time to decide on what you believe is the most fair and most equitable when that time comes if we need to generate more revenue. So I rise to oppose this and ask those of you to consider the fact of what would be the most fair and equitable manner of raising revenue in the State of Nebraska if we cannot make the necessary cuts in order to balance the budget. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. A motion, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to indefinitely postpone LB 98.

SPEAKER BAACK: Is Senator Withem here? He has the option to lay it over or to take it up. Senator Withem. Do you wish to take up the bill? There is a motion to indefinitely postpone or do you want to lay it over?

SENATOR WITHEM: I think, Mr. Speaker, we have a short time before lunch. I was intrigued with some of the things Senator Chambers had in his previous amendment. I didn't particularly like the way it was drafted. I think I'd like to have an opportunity to visit with him, just, though, so everybody knows