

SENATOR COPE: No, that's all right, I'll...I understand, but...

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay.

SENATOR COPE: ...I was using the one that is in the book. But for that amount of money, you're going to get estimates in most cases, correct? You made the statement on the property portion of it that they would have to be estimates.

SENATOR NEWELL: Not really, Senator Cope, in fact, we're really talking about estimates only in the case of personal property tax exemptions when, as you remember on the 518 issue, Senator Schmit at the last few moments before final passage, took out the need to look after this property, and I argued on the floor at that time that that was a mistake, that it was done in order to pull in the information...

SENATOR COPE: Well, let me...let me continue. What I'm getting at is, the Department of Revenue, they do that now, that is, maybe not as complete as you're requesting, I'm sure, but I guess I'm...I will have to oppose it because I think one of two things, either it's going to cost a great deal more money to do this widespread, and I believe it's widespread, and I think the concept, I will agree, is good, but either it's going to cost a great deal more money, or it'll be just another law on the books that we can't fulfill, and I question at this time whether we need it. And that's why I will oppose the bill as amended.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Nichol and then Senator Kremer.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I am concerned about this bill, and Senator Newell, I'd like to ask you a couple, please. First of all, how can you ever get an accurate status by finding out what exemptions were made and the amount of those exemptions throughout any year, let alone the exemptions made over a several year period? For example, a couple of years ago, 518...that thing peeled off in three years. Each year it would be a different amount. Each year there would be other taxes that would have to fill in where these exemptions left off. Each year we exempt certain people and entities from taxation. Each year we take on new responsibilities, which must be paid for out of taxation. What really concerns me about this bill is, what good will it accomplish because at any given time you have fluctuations that will affect these figures and the final bottomline figure. That's one question.

SENATOR NEWELL: Alright. I'd like to answer that. First of