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LB 390

This is the point that I would like to make in that regard. I think we have all noted that Senator Johnson, Senator Vard Johnson, has the ability to turn phrases which are very descriptive. One that I heard this morning was a sense of inequity, a sense of inequity in regard to taxation. I think had Senator Johnson been in this Chamber last night he would have heard witness after witness testify to this sense of inequity in regard to taxation, and the thrust of the argument is, as Senator Kremer has just mentioned, that it is the number of dollars that the rural area contributes to the economy. It is not the percent of the property, it is the number of dollars that each person, each family contributes to support government which is the important consideration, and so as has been pointed out since the capital intensive agriculture requires so much more capital in order for this person, this farmer, this rancher to make a living, his total commitment to taxation is much greater even though the percent of his property which he has that big mortgage on is less. So the total number of dollars of support is really the argument here and I would bring that back to you again and again as those hundreds of people were bringing to the Education Committee last night. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Newell, do you wish the floor?

SENATOR NEWELL: I will let some others speak.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Schmit, do you wish the floor?

SENATOR SCHMIT: I will be very brief, Mr. Chairman, and not try to answer the various questions that have been raised here this morning because it would be impossible to do so. I would just like to say this, if you bring 390 to the floor you have not really served any useful purpose. 284 is a vehicle which can be amended. If the votes are there to bring 390 to the floor, you can amend 284. You can also if you want to choose to do so place the concept of 524 in 284 or 390. I would just ask that we really take a good long look at whether or not we want to put another patch on the innertube and delay for another year or two the inevitable consequences of the action of various Legislatures of which I have been a part for the last twelve years, or if we want to address the issue and do so forthrightly and secure in the knowledge that we are going to not be able to hold everyone harmless. There may be some problems that can be resolved. Senator DeCamp has a suggestion. I don't