

position to meet our state obligations and that is our first responsibility. I urge your adoption of the indefinite postponement amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, I rise to oppose the Warner motion. I do it in a sense that I think has been my philosophical belief all along and I would like to express that and we could talk about it just a little bit. Several people, including Senator Marsh, has just mentioned that our responsibility is to protect the states source of revenue. We are talking about tax dollars and how we are going to collect them, not how we are going to spend them. Whether or not we collect them from the sales and income tax or whether or not we collect them from property tax, that is the issue. In many cases it is the same people. We also have to remember that it is the people of the State of Nebraska's money no matter which way we do it. The philosophical issue, it seems to me, is one that I raised the other day on 284. Senator Dworak is right, there are some parts of 284, as I indicated the other day I can not support. But the philosophical issue is this. Should property taxes pay for things that benefit their property or should property taxes pay for a host of other things. Now as members of this body know I have stood on this floor in the past and said that I believe that property taxes should pay for things that benefit property. For the areas of government that their main goal is to provide benefits for property. But I don't think that property taxes should be used as a source of funds for various entities of government that their main goal is not to provide services to property. That is the reason that I fought long and hard for more additional money to the state aid for education from the sales and income tax dollars. I think this is the same issue. Is Medicaid payments a benefit to property? I don't happen to think that it is. I think that Medicaid payments is a benefit to people. Not property. I have no trouble at all in paying property taxes on my property for those entities that do benefit it. I don't think that many of...most of the other property tax payers in the State of Nebraska do either. I think that they do have some serious questions about paying their property taxes for those services of government that they can obviously see is not of a benefit to their property, remembering that it is the same people paying the taxes. I think that most people would rather pay sales and income taxes to those services of government that