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is going to have to shift its emphasis on energy from an emphasis on petroleum products to other energy supplies and sources. In the meantime, we need to do what we can to develop those sources. We need to do what we can as far as conservation is concerned and it is wise of us to grantedly increase the severance tax on petroleum products and use the increased severance tax to accomplish some energy related objectives. I urge you to support this proposal and to move forward and do something constructive about energy in the 1981 session of the Legislature.

SENATOR CLARK PRESIDING

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the present amendment and also to the bill in itself. I don't think this is one thing to do at this time and I would like to draw your attention to the handout that shows buildings that we are going to spend, proposed buildings we are going to spend money for, and what I want to point out is no county in which these buildings are located is there a county that produces any oil. Isn't that funny? Isn't that unusual? Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield some of my time to Senator Remmers who didn't have a chance to finish his presentation. Is that okay?

SENATOR CLARK: That is fine.

SENATOR REMMERS: Thank you, Senator Nichol. Mr. President, members of the body, I would like to just reemphasize one point and make one more. One is, if we are going to do this type of thing, let's be honest about it and put it up where people will know when they are paying for it. A severance tax is simply hiding the cost. If you think you need to raise the money, put it on oil products, put another cent of tax on the gasoline and all other products because the cost is going to have to go there eventually anyhow. You are going to pay for it in higher gasoline prices whether you put the tax on the severance tax or whether you put it on the pumps when you are filling your gas tanks with gasoline. I think the honest approach would be to tax it up there if you are going to tax it. Furthermore in that way you would not be punishing, which is not a very large industry in the State of Nebraska, the oil industry, but you would be getting the money from the oil industry as a whole if you think that the oil industry is going to be paying it because, again I say, the oil industry is not going to be paying this. The consumers are going to be paying it. Then I would like to take just a moment to speak to another issue and that is