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were further down through April. There is nothing about the economy that I see that gives you optimism that it is going to pick up significantly. Certainly the appearance of the weather, while it rained last night, you would have thought the way some of you were voting that it is going to rain all summer but one rain does not make a crop and I would suggest that you slow down and take into account the necessity of what I believe to be the consensus of the people of the state and that is to keep that budget at a level that is possible within existing receipts. And I would hope you would not adopt the amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, I rise to support Senator Koch in his amendment and I would like to point out to this body that what we are talking about here might be an increase in state funds but it certainly would be a decrease of property tax funds in the State of Nebraska. The problem with property taxes hasn't gone away. We did address this situation last year and it did help somewhat. I would like to point out to you that under this 7% that the school districts are allowed to go up right now, and assuming they don't go up any more than 7% in any cases, there is going to be an increase from the property taxes in the State of Nebraska this year of a little over \$38,000, \$38,000,000, excuse me, which will mean that property taxes on the local level because of the school's needs will probably increase somewhere in the neighborhood of ten percent. Now the Governor has indicated that we should be austere in our deliberations over the budget because it might trigger an increase in sales and income taxes, and unless your constituents are different than mine, mine tell me that they would rather have the sales and income taxes go up a little more but keep their property taxes down. Now I think that is probably pretty generally felt across the State of Nebraska. I would point out again as I did a year ago that the funding for education as far as the property taxpayer is concerned, in most cases the property taxpayer cannot see the correlation between property or the ability to own property or the ability to have property on their assessors' rolls, even though your equity might be very low on that property, and the need for funds for education. Education is generally perceived as being a benefit for people. Sales and income taxes I think generally are conceived as being more of a people tax. So it seems logical to me, at least, that the sales and income tax should generate more dollars for the public schools of the State of Nebraska. So I certainly agree with Senator Koch and I urge this body's adoption of this amendment, realizing full well that it could,