

the Legislature now is deeming a tax increase. Well, I don't know that 16 percent is right or 17 or 18 until I see a lot more. I don't know that we are going to pass a \$15 million increase in employees'....I don't know that we are going to only deal with an increase for the University without dealing with a comparable balancing increase in state aid to education. And you say, well, that is not a state responsibility. Baloney. We have accepted it as a state responsibility. It is a fundamental part of the financing of our public school system. We accepted that a long time ago. Don't say it is second rate now. Don't say it is a secondary thing. That was what we decided for the property tax system. Maybe you are going to end up having to say, we need a sales tax increase and we need an income tax increase. Or maybe you are going to say the opposite when you look at the whole picture out here. Maybe you are going to say, everybody is going to be held just where they were last year, no increase for the University, no increase for state aid to education. Maybe you are going to say, this is not the year for the Legislature to signal a major \$15 million increase in state employees' salaries, instead you send the signal far and wide in Nebraska that we are holding the line here and we urge employees in business and industry to do the same. I don't know. But I do know this, you are making all those decisions right here quick with one vote and sanctioning a major budget that has those things in it and as I say, I know what the vote is, pretty close now, because I kind of got the word, kind of got the word, it's time to switch. I have held firm on this until I see how we do on the budget and what we are going to spend, and I may be the only one still holding firm against increase in the taxes until I know what I am doing it for, but I am going to hold firm.

SENATOR CLARK: I have 8 more lights on. I have Senator Kahle, Senator Marsh, Senator Nichol, Senator Haberman, Senator Remmers, and then Senator Carsten and Senator Warner. Senator Kahle is next.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President and members, I think...am I on?

SENATOR CLARK: Yes, you are on. Also Senator Fenger.

SENATOR KAHLE: I think that Senator DeCamp has missed the whole thrust of this thing. About a week or ten days ago we passed in this body a motion to return to the Revenue Committee the task of coming up with the necessary funding for the bills that...or the budget that was presented by the Governor and by the Appropriations Committee. It has nothing to do with changing those budgets, and we