

financial situation not only in our state but in the United States. I strongly support the proposed motion to amend LB 304.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the amendment, and I realize when one that is not on Appropriations or Revenue gets up and flies into the faces of those Chairmen, the odds are mighty much against you. But I don't think it is this body's obligation to set any tax rate and that is what I think this does. I don't think we should be addressing it at all...at all. We have a Board of Equalization and they well know what our expenditures are and we make the expenditures in this body and whatever those expenditures come out, the Board of Equalization should and must take the responsibility to set the tax rate accordingly. It isn't this body's duty or obligation to set that tax rate. It is our duty and obligation to set our expenditures at a level that we think may not increase or may increase. I personally think the suggested rate of increase will come about anyway. But, nevertheless, I don't think we need to put that into law that we are usurping the authority of the Board of Equalization in setting a tax rate. So far, I certainly object to the amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the amendment to the bill. I would like to bring to your attention two or three things. Senator Kahle made the remark, right now we need the money. We need the money now that's why we need to do this. How does he know we need the money now when we haven't adopted a budget? We haven't adopted a budget. We don't know how much we are going to spend, so what business do we have in raising to 16 percent the income tax? So that sure doesn't hold water. We are getting into a field we don't have any business getting into. If I remember correctly, we passed Rule 8 and it went something like this, that the Appropriations Committee was supposed to present to this body a budget within a certain number of times that we could...days that we could look at and then work towards that budget. So they did that. Well, some people didn't like that so they maneuvered around and they said, well, beings as there is so much unrest, we will just dump all of this into the Revenue Committee's lap, which is fine, they are good people. They are honest and they are sincere,