

taxation, if you will. Now I don't think that is right and I don't think that is fair. Now Senator Johnson indicated that lowering from 40 to 35, from 16% to 17% was about equal and he didn't indicate what it would be to go on down to 30 but I would guess that it is probably going to be about equal if you went to 30 and went to 18% which I think will probably happen. Now again from my perspective, there are several other reasons it seems that this Legislature shouldn't be in the business of raising corporate taxes very high. Do you remember just a year ago it was very important for this Legislature to grant a sales tax exemption to corporations that would come in and buy new equipment and set up business in this state. It was needed so that we would get those corporations in the state. Suddenly this year we seem to be in a position where that is not very important, where taxes aren't an incentive to get, to keep corporations in the state. A year ago it certainly was. This year it is not. I don't quite understand that either. I think that we're in a situation where those jobs that we have a number of people in this state, as you all know, unemployed and we need every corporation or every business in this state that we can possibly get. And when you look at the corporate structure, tax structure of Nebraska and surrounding states, there are some discrepancies and if we raise ours very much these discrepancies are going to be even worse and I don't want to be in that position. I don't think anybody else does. I'd rather be on the side that ours are lower than a few other states and obviously they are. I'd rather have them coming in from Iowa over into Nebraska, or from Kansas but I don't want them running over to Missouri or Colorado either. It seems to me that we need to take that into consideration as we look at this situation, but the bottom line again is we can set the tax rates on those corporations wherever we want to but in the end the consumer of that product, our own people in many cases, are going to be paying those taxes. So I would urge this body's adoption of this amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, I rise to support the amendment proposed by Senator Vickers. We often-times get correspondence on a lot of subjects in this body and I have had considerable from various businesses, large, small and medium sized. I believe that this amendment is reasonable and most of the corporations and people I have talked to personally and written to will accept what they believe is a reasonable one and they think 30% is reasonable. They are willing to pay their share but I remind you that the businesses today aren't as healthy as you think they are because I happen to be a part of a couple of them, and if