

SENATOR BURROWS: ...and lose these revenues that are from the easiest source to pay it with 46% of that coming from the federal take because they will deduct the additional tax from the federal return. I plead with you that you reject this amendment which would actually scuttle the bill totally. It has some value yet but it is very limited. It is a nothing if you move down to 30% on that tax take.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Vickers, do you wish to close?

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, I've got a comment on a few of the comments that have been made by some of my colleagues. Senator Newell indicated that perhaps some of us have been listening to the corporations more than we have been listening to the people. I'll tell you quite honestly I've been listening to quite a few people and I believe if you ask the average citizen if they believe that corporations pay taxes, I think most of them will tell you, no, they don't think so. They think the people pay taxes. Senator Burrows indicated that some of the large corporations are moving out of the country, moving over...taking their finances with them. I guess the only one response to that is I wonder why. Maybe this is one of the reasons. You know, I think all we need to do is look at what the federal government has done the last few years and I would ask whether or not we believe that the Exxons and the Standard Oils and the Mobils are paying the windfall profits tax or if we are paying the windfall profits taxes at the pump? I personally think that we are paying those windfall profits taxes right there at the pump. I'll tell you who is being stuck with the windfall profits taxes if it is not those of us paying at the pump, it is those smaller corporations, those small oil producers out there in my area and Senator Clark's area that can't pass the cost along because they don't retail all the way to the pump. They are the ones that are being stuck with it but the large corporations that can go all the way to the retail level to the pump, you can bet your bottom dollar that we are paying for it and I think the same thing is true with corporate taxes in the State of Nebraska. As we raise the corporate taxes those corporations that might be in agriculture or some other business of that nature that can't pass the cost along, yes, they are going to pay for it. Those are the smaller ones. But those large corporations in this state, if we actually think they are going to pay those taxes and not increase their cost of operations as a result of it, I think we are whistling in the wind. I think the average citizen of this state buying those products are going to pay for it and for that reason I urge the adoption of this amendment and, Mr. President, I would give the remaining of my time to Senator Koch.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Koch, do you want the remainder of his time? The question before the House is the adoption of