

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and colleagues, I rise to support the Kahle amendment. What this does is exempt 90% of the personal property in the State of Nebraska. Of course I was one of those senators that supported 518 because I thought it had a chance to work. But after we have had it in effect four or five years we find out that it isn't working. I think that we have had a Constitutional problem with it every year. The Revenue Committee has worked long and hard on this project and we have not been able to come up with a fair solution. I realize that there are special interest groups working against putting some of the personal property back on the tax rolls. They say that if we exempt 90% this year we will come back and exempt 80% or 70 or 60 or 50 the following years. I submit to you that we can do this on sales tax. We can do it on corporate tax, we can do it on cigarette tax and all the other taxes and we are doing it. But, I don't think that we would on this. Senator Koch calls this tax a liar's tax. I feel that if we get the percentage down low enough, they will not chose to lie about the property that they own. I think that it would be a fair and just way to go and also a very equitable way to go. One thing about it we know that it would be constitutional. It would put the exact dollar back to the exact place where it belongs. I think this is what we are trying to do and I commend Senator Kahle for bringing this amendment before us at this time.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, you know it is always interesting to read history. You go back and you read the campaign brochure's of many of my colleagues and they spoke in boastful terms of how they removed the personal property tax, personal property from exemption. They removed it from the tax rolls. I voted in favor, I supported, I did this, I did that. There have been people who have gone on to greater heights from this body riding that horse. There are some here who intend to go on to greater heights and are aspiring to it and who will have one hell of a time getting out into the rural areas and explaining why they voted for 816 in its present form when it benefitted a small provincial area from which they happen to serve at the present time. I'm the foremost opponent of personal property tax. I don't think anyone ever doubted anyone. . . excuse me Senator Newell, anyone ever paid any tax in a significant amount doubted it unfairness. I think it is also interesting, of course, that my good friends, the attorneys almost