

given a task to be responsive to the people of the state, and the people of the state are a little bit, I think, more intelligent than sometimes people give them credit for. The people of the state are saying that they want property tax relief. Maybe it is just my area, but the people in my area are saying I understand that we may need some broadening of the tax and it may be sales, it may be income, somewhere else, but we want property tax relief. The people of the 42nd District are not ignorant people. They understand that issue very, very well. It is a difficult position. Senator Wesely mentions all of the things that the committees need to do, and what we are getting here, ladies and gentlemen, members of the body, what we are getting here is a confusion of the basic concept we are trying to get across here. There are a lot of bills with spending. There are tremendous amount of bills with spending, and if we allow the process to take its natural course, the spending will be committed before we commit ourselves to property tax. The committees, Senator Wesely, can do their jobs and do their job very well if they know that this Legislature has put itself on the line supporting property tax relief. One of the things that surprised me a little, some of the handouts that I have received today. Maybe I should approach it this way. Do not take LB 275 on its face value. This bill, when it passes, if it would pass the whole thing to Final Reading, would not be at the end \$50 million. Neither Senator Withem, neither myself, or other people that are on 275 or, at least, on the motion are naive enough to think that \$50 million is going to do anything to support and maintain a property tax. That number will have to be changed. The bill will have to be amended. We will be looking at sales. We will be looking at income. We will be looking at all sorts of things, whether it be Senator Lamb's 10 percent rebate, or what have you. Those would be a part of the general amendment discussion process on General File, and we can take care of that, and we can have a bill by the end that will be responsive. Some of the handouts I had, for example, said that if you gave \$50 million, look what would happen financially to the State of Nebraska. I found that interesting, because if we take the same \$50 million and put it into higher education, I haven't heard a peep that it is going to cause financial problems. But we take the \$50 million out and put it into property tax relief, and all of a sudden now we are looking at deficit situations. I find that kind of ironic. The other thing I find in some of this information given to me this morning is that look at what happens when we give state aid increases.