

thought we were going right through these bills this morning. I figured we would be through by at least eleven-thirty, but it looks like we won't be. But I think this is a good idea. I support it. I like the idea that you print the names along with the legal description, because when you pick up a newspaper and read those legal descriptions, you don't know whether it is Senator Loran Schmit or Senator Carol Pirsch, or whose property that belongs to, and I think if it is our duty to pay taxes, we should pay them, and this is what we will do. Ladies and gentlemen, this is the right thing to do, and also I approve of the amendment that we adopted because I didn't feel that we should just make the small counties do it. I think if we make the small counties do it, well, the larger counties should do it, too. Let's treat everybody the same. Okay, I don't think there was any mention made...there was anything mentioned about whether we print one name or a number of names. This bill just addresses the first name or the first owner of the property, so we wouldn't, if we had five or six different owners, we wouldn't publish all of those. We would just publish the first name and then the legal description. It was mentioned in the Revenue Committee hearing that we are going to embarrass taxpayers. Well, maybe some of them need to be embarrassed but this is public information. When the newspapers publish the court costs or the court cases, such as speeders or other court cases, they give the names in. So I don't think it would be any more embarrassing to the delinquent taxpayer than it would be to the speeder on the highway. It is true that the county assessor did testify against this and I can see perhaps why, but they really didn't give the committee any good reason why. The cost of this, yes, the cost is going to double, but this wouldn't be up to the county to pay. The county would pay it up front, but then they would add it on to that delinquent tax. It was mentioned that this is a bill so that small newspapers can make more money. Well, I don't think they are going to make any money. I doubt whether very many of these newspapers make money publishing legal notices. For instance, the county that I live in, Cedar County, the county board designates one county as the official publication newspaper. Then all the papers in that county, and there is four of them, they all publish the public notices and divide this amount of money. So I don't think they are going to make that much money. A number of the states are doing this and it is working out good for them, and so I would urge you to support this bill as amended.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Rogers.