

this same line, and I recall a legislator offered an amendment, somewhat facetiously, to print the names of the individuals who didn't pay their child support, to print the names of the individuals who received a welfare check, to print the names of any person who received a government check. All of that contributes to the interest of the public. It would seem to me that it ought to be at least as much in the interest of the public to know the names of those of us who receive public funds as it is in the interest of the public to know those who pay them and who might have a little difficulty paying them from time to time. I know that Senator Hefner said that when you look in the newspaper and you read the legal description you don't know if Senator Schmit paid his taxes or not. Well, there are those of us on this floor who can attest to the fact that if a state legislator doesn't pay his property taxes, the good press, in their efficiency and zeal, will publish a news article about it. They will list that individual who is delinquent, who is delinquent, and point out the fact that that person is a state official who hasn't paid their property taxes. I can recall a number of such instances in the last few years that I have been around here. I just want to emphasize again that so often in this business where we are responsible for the expenditure of funds, we have taken the attitude that those individual taxpayers can just automatically come up with the bucks to pay those taxes. Let me tell you, ladies and gentlemen, it is not easy, and there are some of you who because of a particular method of financing your homes find that to be taken care of with your house payment. But in the rural areas, if you were to publish the names of the farmers in my area who were short on their taxes a few years ago, there would have been a lot of us who were late. Most of them were not delinquent but many of them were late. The point I want to make is this. There comes a time, I believe, when ordinary citizens have got a little bit of right to some kind of privacy and I think that that privacy probably is acceded when you don't pay your share of your taxes, but I want to point out again...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...taxes are almost always paid, almost always paid, and if you don't pay them on time, you pay 14 percent interest. Any person who has the money or who can get the money is going to go down and get the money and pay his taxes. Why would he penalize himself there two or three or four percent? If you want to be the individual who says that we are going to