

it. What I am asking...That was not a play on your name, Senator Barrett, because Senator Barrett could bear it all out of his watch pocket. (Laughter.) Senator Barrett and I are the only ones who know what a watch pocket is. But at any rate I'm asking that when it comes to clothing, utilities and household goods, which are essentials, will not be subject to this additional 1 percent tax. I talked about the automobile. I have not in my amendment attempted to take anything off the tax that will be added to the purchase of a "Rattlac" as opposed to the Cadillac, Senator Conway. But I do feel that a strong justification exists for adopting my amendment. The Statue of Liberty does not say send me your tired, your poor, your hungry, those yearning to be free, the huddled masses, and so forth, and I will make their plight worse than it was at the time they arrived. America is presented as a land of opportunity with an open door to those from all over the world, and we know that is not true, but nevertheless that's what is portrayed, that is what is depicted. And since that is the part of the ethos of this country I will play on it for the purpose of this amendment. If, for all of those around the world who have problems, America is to offer an opportunity to improve their condition and mitigate their plight, how can we at the same time as lawmakers continue to lay heavy burdens on those who are already burdened down? It's like a person walking between two lines of people and each person in the line has a pebble. The person doing the walking has a large wicker basket on his or her back, and the line stretches from here as far as the eye can see, beyond Highway 2. And as they walk past Senator Baack he tosses in a pebble. No big thing. Senator Lamb tosses in his pebble. No big thing. But after they get about three miles from where they started there are a lot of pebbles in the basket. And, if there can be such a thing as a straw breaking the back of a camel, there certainly can be a set of circumstances reached where a pebble will break the back of an overburdened human being. So the last person throws in the pebble, the individual falls and is crushed by the basket, and each one who contributed can say, well it wasn't me. Weigh the pebble that I placed in the basket and that is not enough to cause even an inconvenience. And all the way down the line each person that contributed says the same thing, it was not mine. And that is true, not one single pebble did it, but the coming together of all these individuals in concert, to load that burden on the one individual, contributed to the catastrophe. That is what you mean by co-conspirators. And that is what the Legislature is doing when they step-by-step continue to increase