

although I would have preferred the amendment without the Hall amendment, I believe we still need the amendment. I am not at all crazy about the bill, to be frank with you, but I think you do need the amendment and I think that Senator Warner gave us the reasons why we need to narrow the scope of the bill as much as possible. I understand Senator Withem's deep personal concern because it does have a major impact upon his area, but I think that the amended version with the Schmit amendment should answer his needs and should not open up the entire issue to broad debate.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Before, again, recognizing Senator Bernard-Stevens, the Chair is pleased to announce that Senator Morrissey has some guests in the north balcony. We have 13 sixth graders from Sterling Elementary in Sterling, Nebraska with their teacher. Would you please stand and be recognized. Thank you. We are pleased that you could visit us this morning. Senator David.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, Senator Schmit, I view this amendment, as all of your amendments, as a friendly amendment, and this one certainly is trying to narrow the scope a little bit, and in theory, I really have no problems with the amendment. I do want the body, though I may not support it, I haven't really decided yet, I do want the body I think to be up on the two different versions so that when the body does make a decision, it is a wise decision and a decision of the body, and whichever way the body wants to go, that is certainly fine with me because both would accomplish what I have been trying to do with 643. The one concern I have with the Schmit amendment and, also, and I understand what Senator Warner says and I really don't have a good argument against what Senator Warner is saying. He is making some very valid points. There are some areas there that counties might be able to estimate a tax loss and really be...open themselves to a lot of mischief I think if we are not too careful on it, and that is true. I would say, like any other body, particularly the Nebraska Legislature, when you have a lot of possibilities, there is a lot of mischief that can go on within the body and we are eventually accountable to the people that elected us, and they would have to keep that under consideration. The real difference between 643, at least for the legislative intent and the record, and the Schmit amendment, is again if the body wishes to look at the Schmit amendment, lines 8 through 11, there is where the tightening of the amendment comes, and, in