

enough to support the Schmit amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: The LB 643, in essence, says any tax loss, tax loss, by any pending, which would be railroad lawsuit, or anticipated, which would be pipeline, and I don't know many counties that are anticipating anything at this point, but if you have a Supreme Court decision in the next couple of months, counties can anticipate that because there would be one, and that certainly is going to keep them from coming to the Legislature and asking for a bailout because we can say we gave you the latitude to budget for that; there is no need to come crying to us at this point. So at this point, I guess I would oppose...I guess I would oppose the Schmit amendment, though I understand the nature of the amendment, and certainly if it is agreed to, would still be supportive of the bill, but I would urge at this point support of the bill as it now is without the Schmit amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The Chair is especially pleased to announce that we have some very special guests under our north balcony. We have two visitors from Austria, who are visiting the United States under the auspices of the International Visitor Program of the United States Information Agency. They are guests today of Nebraska State Treasurer, Frank Marsh. First, I am very pleased to introduce the Deputy Governor of the Province of Lower Austria, Mr. Erwin Proell, Doctor. Also with us this morning, the Managing Director, Banking Institution for Agricultural Cooperatives for Lower Austria and Vienna, Dr. Christian Konrad. Dr. Konrad. Along with these two visitors from Austria, we have Mr. David Edminster, the United States escort interpreter, David Edminster. Thank you, gentlemen. We are especially pleased that you could take some time to visit our Legislative Chamber. We are delighted to have you with us.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Any other discussion on the Schmit amendment? Seeing none, Senator Schmit, any closing comment?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Mr. President and members, I rise here with mixed emotions because I do not know if I want to improve the bill enough so it becomes law or if I want to allow the bill not to become improved and, hopefully, it does not become law. But I want to just caution you that if you think the bill only