

relief. Why...the reason why I did vote against its advancement is because it cannot fit in the scenario that we have right now. If it's the will of the Legislature to change that scenario, fine. But I can't support a bill that is putting a promise out to people without any real likelihood of it being sustained or without some significant changes in our present proposals that you have before you and will have before you. I think it's unrealistic, I think it's unfair to the taxpayer to say we can do all this and no raise of taxes, because it just cannot be done.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: That is the reason why I did not vote to advance LB 84.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Any other discussion? Senator Lamb, any closing statement?

SENATOR LAMB: Very briefly, Mr. Speaker. Senator Hannibal said it's hard to vote against this bill. You know I had a similar bill four years ago and it wasn't hard for a lot of people to vote against that bill, in fact it was killed right on the floor of this Legislature. But I see a difference this year, and I think two things have contributed to it. One is that there is at least a perceived surplus in the state treasury that should be used for good purpose, which a lot of people say should be property tax relief. And then the other one is that we are hearing from our constituents more and more about the problems of high property tax. So it seems to me those two things have contributed to the atmosphere that seems to be prevailing during this session that something needs to be done. Now yesterday we advanced LB 611, and I voted for that and I support it. But we must remember that that bill will eventually cause tax increases, huge tax increases, in fact, much more than has been mentioned today in regard to LB 84. You know we're talking about a big increase in income taxes, but also I serve on that finance committee, the school finance committee, and we're talking about an additional penny on the sales tax, plus more on the income tax. So we're not saying, or at least I'm not saying that the money is free and easy. I'm saying there should be a shift, there should be a shift from property to some other form of taxation. I don't think we need it this year, I don't think we need it this year because of the surpluses that have been built up. Next year we'll look at the problem again to see how