

Now that is not something I called for, that is something that she chose to do, and that is the way it is. And I'm sorry that Senator Moore feels that he needs to engage in the sort of discussion that he did, because I'm here to suggest to you a way to make this system fairer and also provide the sort of tax relief I've been calling for for the past year. The increase was not \$18 million, as the Governor would have had you believe, in which this bill would call for. The increase was \$26.6 million. And if you adopt this amendment, which deals with the marginal rate problem and makes it more correct, as Senator Hall talked about the equity issue, and then you turn around and you take the money that would have gone into that, take the personal exemption money that the Governor has and the additional amount of money that really ought to be returned to the taxpayers to reflect a tax increase, and you have a total of \$20 million that should go into an increase in the personal exemptions from \$1,130 to \$1,400. That's where I think we ought to move to in terms of equity on 773. I've been up front a clear about that, that's exactly what I've been calling for. I have another piece of legislation in the Revenue Committee that essentially did the same thing. I am very consistent on this issue and I stand by my record on having said what the truth was, and the truth continues to be, as all of us recognize. And whether we want to try to put some different tones and overtones to it, it's fine, that is fine. But the truth is always out there and the record is there, and I stand by it.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Schellpeper, followed by Senators Langford and Ashford.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I also rise to support this amendment. I think any senator that said they didn't know they were voting for a tax increase in seven...with 773, in 1987, better start reading their bills. I think most of us realize that was a tax increase. If you didn't, like I said, you better start reading the bills before you vote on them. There was, I think, seven or eight of us that opposed 773, maybe 12. But this amendment would get it back to be a fair tax for all of Nebraska. And I think that is what we're all trying to really do. No matter what we do, we need to do something that is fair for everybody, and this amendment will do that. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Langford.