

Governor, in that the rich get rich and the poor get poorer under these different tax proposals. They have made off quite well, the high income, and the rest of us, the poor and the working people of this state, have had to bear that burden, and it is simply not fair. It is Robin Hood in reverse, and we have refused to correct that, whether it be the capital gains amendment I proposed earlier, the unemployment compensation issue that we considered last week, and any number of additional issues where this body and the Governor have refused to respond to the needs of the working people, the unemployed, the disadvantaged, and the lower and middle income people of this state. We seem constantly to listen and hear the voices of the wealthy and the powerful but we are unwilling or unable to hear those of the other individuals in this state that I think are crying out for assistance and attention. You know, I haven't had much luck up here and I don't anticipate success with this amendment, and although I may be losing more than I am winning, I am sure I am right more than I am wrong, and so I will continue to try and pursue these policies and this philosophy as long as I can to try and bring this to the attention of the body, and, again, I think more than a fine tuning is in order with this legislation. It needs an overhaul, and this amendment would provide just the overhaul that it needs.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the Wesely amendment? Senator Hefner, followed by Senators Schellpeper, Hall, and Moore.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body. I know Senator Wesely is very conscientious in presenting this amendment and I know he wants to do what he thinks is right, but, Senator Wesely, if you had been serving on the Revenue Committee several years ago when we went through this in detail, you would know what we are talking about. And so this is why I am opposing your amendment at this time, but Senator Wesely's amendment does, as I understand it, I don't have a copy on my desk. Mr. Clerk, is there a copy, is this printed in the Journal or...is this amendment printed in the Journal?

ASSISTANT CLERK: No, it is not, Senator.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, well, I will go ahead with my talk anyway, and it increases personal exemptions, and as I understand it, it would reduce state income tax \$26 million for the next calendar year. I would like to bring one thought up to