

SENATOR MOORE: Not necessarily. That is an option. What I would prefer is to raise an additional, add an additional income tax rate over and above the present state rate, but that is not necessarily the case because, actually, you could dedicate a portion of the state rate back to the local school districts, and to make up that, what is lost to the state, you could raise the sales tax to pay for it, if you understand. So I would prefer to actually pay...finance at least a portion of it through raising the income tax, but that doesn't necessarily have to be the case.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: If you raise the income tax, say, with 611, and if you give the refund here, is that a good way to treat the taxpayers of Nebraska?

SENATOR MOORE: Well, when you raise 611, if you do that next year, you are basically saying it is a tax shift. Is that a good way to treat the taxpayers of the state? Well, my opinion is I voted against 773 because I thought it was unfair to the low and middle income. Now I have an opportunity to be consistent and do what I wanted to do when I voted against LB 773 and vote for it here and get us back to ground zero, quite basically, because several people have said for two years that is where we need to get. We will be back there and then we can make a judgment on whether or not we want to make some changes for a tax shift.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you. I think, like I said the other day, I think, eventually, we need to get one-third income tax, one-third sales, one-third property, and by giving this money back, we are going away from that premise, and I think we need to work towards that more. So I am not going to support this at this time. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Hefner. Senator Bernard-Stevens, did you care to discuss? Thank you. Senator Hefner, yours was the last light, it won't be necessary. Thank you. Senator Hannibal, would you care to close?

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Brief closing, a word to Senator Hall on his amendment, and he caught me. He caught me not knowing as much about that amendment as I should have and I don't feel badly for suggesting or criticizing for the way he handled it because I think it could have been handled a lot more up front, especially if he had information I didn't