

begging to the father for forgiveness and wanting to be reestablished as a member of the family, and to repent for all of his past actions. It seems to me that this is something that is going to happen here if this bill passes in its present form. It is like giving a mass of money to a group of people in a certain way so that then once that money is expended, once that relief is given, then the next year will come, and then you are faced with some really difficult decisions as to how that property tax relief is going to continue or be maintained. My real problem with the bill is that this surplus in the General Fund was obtained at the expense of primarily middle income people who were overtaxed and had to pay a tax increase on the income tax side. It also comes from a group of people who are paying a lot of sales taxes, and we are getting more back in sales tax than we ever had anticipated, but where do we...given this surplus, the logical place to redistribute that excess money would be back to the income taxpayers who paid the tax or to reduce the sales tax to try to give some relief there. But, no, we are going to try in this bill to apparently give it back to property tax owners who may or may not have been responsible for the income, the increased revenue available in the General Fund at this time. I think the statistics state that one-third of the Nebraska taxpayers will not see any tax relief under LB 84. They won't see any relief whatsoever, yet they are the ones who helped pay for the surplus and the tax increase that was imposed upon them in order to increase that money in the General Fund. It is only a temporary thing. If it passes, we will be facing a dilemma next year in this Legislature of whether or not to have to increase the sales tax or increase the income tax in order to compensate as you are going to try to remedy that property tax or adjust for and continue the property tax relief, and the problem is, if you don't continue that property tax relief, then you are going to create a real problem in the local level because, undoubtedly, if the property tax relief bill comes, there is going to be a bigger local property tax budget that is going to have to be funded, and there will be a need to continue it, and you really deceive and mislead the people on the local level with that. For that reason, and for other reasons that I have heard on the floor here today, such as, whether we should have a severability clause or not, we are unsure of how that compromise is going to work, we are unsure about the tax relief, the fact that a lot of that money, property tax relief, is going to end up going back to the federal government in the form of increased federal income taxes. A lot of things are still unresolved at this time and,