

through. You know, this is one where we have got to make a decision. I would hope those 17 of you that said your priority was property tax relief, you had supported this in the past, we'll reconsider your views and think about it again in that context because you really cannot have both. I would urge you not to support the Warner amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, I stand to oppose the Warner amendment. And also going along a little bit with what Senator Withem has said, about choices that have to be made and I did not vote for the amendment on LB...the amendment which was agreed to by the four senators on LB 84 which became...now is LB 84, for a very simple reason, and that is that it's...at that time I felt...I had great reservations about the amount of the relief as being almost a minimus, especially for the...for the residential homeowner. And, secondarily, as it was suggested by...has been suggested by Senator Warner over and over again, there is no way of really knowing whether or not it would be sustained on an ongoing basis and I haven't decided yet what I'm going to do on LB 84 when it comes up for Final Reading again. And it appears as if that's going to be the property relief package that we will have an opportunity to vote on. And, therefore, I think that the Warner amendment makes a somewhat difficult situation on property tax relief in that it's a very small amount, especially for the residential landowners, even much less and much less effective. If we vote for the Warner amendment, I see no reason at all to vote for LB 84 because I did some statistical review of what effect LB 84 would have on an average homeowner in Omaha. Income of 70,000, valuation of a \$100,000, home valuation of \$100,000, there would be a gross reduction of property tax of \$221, increase of state income tax of \$13, increase in federal income tax of \$62, which would amount to a net reduction of \$146, or less than 1 percent reduction in property tax. If we adopt the Warner amendment, I suspect there would be a net reduction in property tax of somewhere around point or a tenth of 1 percent rather a twentieth of 1 percent. So I haven't made up my mind yet on LB 84 because of some of these problems, the sustaining problem and the fact that it's such a small amount of relief and we're using 98 million, or whatever it is, in state funds in order to affect that kind of property tax relief which is not really property tax relief of any substance. Possibly, it's a...as Senator Lamb has argued, and I think it's a