

all property owners in the state, a fair bill for all taxpayers. I would direct your attention to the handout that was just distributed which I wrote to the World-Herald and it stresses, I would like to stress, that Nebraska ranks 13th in reliance on property tax, 38th in sales tax, and 32nd in income tax. This is an effort to correct that imbalance to reduce property taxes, to have less reliance on property taxes in a meaningful way. Most people say we should reduce property taxes by 200 or 250 million, and I agree. So, in order to have a significant start, we need to start in the area that we're discussing in the present bill, present LB 84. There's a lot of discussion about other heavy issues that are soon to come before this body, but I think we should keep this separate, this is a separate issue. We're talking here not about a spending bill, not about a spending bill, but we're talking about a bill which shifts the tax burden in a manner that I think most Nebraskan's believe the burden should be shifted. There has been much discussion about the permanent solution which may be embodied in the conception of LB 611, LB 611, and as some of the argument in regard to LB 84 has been that LB 84 is not sustainable over time, but let me tell you what LB 611 is going to do. In order to have meaningful property tax in that bill, there are going to have to be increases in sales and income taxes in all probability in order to have the property tax relief that LB 611 envisions. This is a start in that direction. This is a beginning toward that end. It's one that's necessary and this is the opportune time to do it for at least two reasons. One is that the people in the State of Nebraska are crying for property tax relief, and the other is that there are funds available to do it this year. This is the time to do it and let's do it, and I ask you to defeat all the amendments. There are three or four amendments on the bill, all of them designed to do, in varying degrees, what the amendment by Senator Warner does, and that's to chop down the amount of the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR LAMB: I think we should leave the bill where it is. It's been discussed. We've had ample opportunity to amend the bill. It's been on return from Final Reading once before so, at this point, I ask that all these amendments be defeated.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President and colleagues, this year we're