

SPEAKER BARRETT: The question has been called. I am a little bit concerned in that there has been no discussion on the other side. I think I will not recognize that at the moment. Senator Rod Johnson, I appreciate it though. Thank you. Is there anybody that would care to speak on the other side of the issue? Senator Chambers, I'll recognize you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, I have said over and over that I'm opposed to the bill, but I listened to what Senator Lamb said and I've read his article that he put in the paper and it's at times...it's at a time like this that I really appreciate the statement that ignorance is bliss. It's too bad when you learn how to read and that you do read, and it's especially burdensome if you read history. A lot of people talk about property that they have and what a burden it is to pay the taxes, and I've never brought this up to any degree on this floor, but when this government was stealing land from Indians after they promised by treaty to leave them secure in the land that was theirs, they were giving it to white people when we couldn't own property. People of my complexion were owned as property and could not own it. So a lot of people now have inherited that property and talk as though they came by it honestly, that their family worked so hard and that from nothing they built something. It started in theft and the thieves are caught with the goods and they don't want to pay. If these people who were given this land have so much trouble holding it now, you know that they wouldn't have had the wherewithal, or the ingenuity to acquire it in the first place. It was given to them. The government said, you go out there and stake this land out and it's yours. You can have it. You don't have to pay a penny for it. They pass homestead bills, laws, for you all. And now listen to this, and I read in Senator Lamb's article where he talks about income taxes are not paid unless you make a profit. But we all know from the articles we have read that some of the largest revenue generators, both agricultural and commercial, corporations manipulate the tax laws so not only do they not pay any income tax, they show a loss. So the big people can manipulate the tax laws and what would be profit for myself or somebody in here is not profit at all, so they don't pay any income tax. Senator Lamb is right when he says sales taxes are paid only after a conscious decision has been made to purchase an item. That's true. A mother purchases shoes for her children. A bassinet for a baby. They decide that they're going to pay the gas bill so they can have heat. They're going to pay the water bill so they can bathe and cook. They're going