

property tax decrease do we have in exchange for these large increases in sales and income tax? Another possibly oversimplified method that I use is that with this bill we probably...we won't have LB 84 which provided 8.5 percent reduction in property taxes last year.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR LAMB: So that means that automatically property taxes go up 8.5 percent. Okay, the goal of the commission has been a 15 percent reduction in property taxes. So with my Class I, Senator Schmit, arithmetic, I subtract 8.5 percent from 15, I get 6.5 percent net reduction in property taxes for an exchange for a 25 percent increase in sales tax...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time has expired.

SENATOR LAMB: ...and 17.5 percent increase in income tax. And my question again is, is it worth it?

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair is pleased to note that Senator Byars has eight students from Adams High School in our south balcony, with their sponsor. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you. We welcome you. Also, Senator Beck announces some guests in our south balcony, 13 nine to fourteen-year-olds from Madonna School for Exceptional Children in Omaha and their teacher. Would you folks please stand and be welcomed. Thank you. We're pleased to have you with us. Turning to discussion of the Lamb amendment to the committee amendments. I would recommend that discussion be limited to the Lamb amendment if at all possible. I have a number of lights on. If you don't want to speak to the Lamb amendment, waive off, I will not remove your light. Senator Nelson, would you care to discuss the Lamb amendment?

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, yes, I will. I almost hesitated. I, too, have the same concern as the impact of LB 361. Senator Lamb is entirely correct in saying that we don't know what actually it will be and I have questioned the Education Department a number of times about this. They say they can't tell. They don't think it has much of an effect. I will also tell you that the problem that I have...and I may be accused of speaking to the bill now, I will be supporting the bill, I think, in the long run. I serve on Education, and so on. Equal opportunities for education is my