

under the Withem amendment, I'm afraid if we do that, we'd start the avalanche. And guess who is going to pay that? The little guy is in terms of loss of services out there, whether it's in the school district, or the cities or the counties. It's not a very nice spot to be in. We're really in a crummy spot because we have a fundamentally unfair tax system in the State of Nebraska and we can't fix it under the current call. So, what do you do? Well, I guess you don't just stomp out in anger, as much as I'd like to. And I'd really like to vote for the Withem amendment because I am so angered by this session, and I am so irked at just circumstances beyond all of our control. But because we're in that box, with the 4-R Act, and we're going to get to that when we get to LB 7 and probably see even more galling things that we're going to have to do just to prevent our cities, our counties, our schools, our fire districts and everybody else going down the tube. And I guess I'd like to say I told you so, and the people that called for a broader call were right, because we can't get there from here under the current call. We're stuck. We've got to vote for stuff like LB 2, that is galling, that is unfair to the little guy, but I guess if you want to look at what is the greatest good or the least evil kind of standard, the least evil is probably voting for LB 2 and not supporting Senator Withem's amendment. But I guess that is why we're having this debate, is it's so frustrating because we can't get where we'd like to go. And our only choice would be to either call ourselves back in and go where we want to go, and clearly the consensus isn't there. I think some of the answers there, after our weekend up in Platte River Park, some of the answers are to be found in the recommendations of the School Finance Commission. But to put all those pieces together requires many more debates like this and many more discussions like this so we clearly understand what our limits are. So we aren't going to make our tax system fair by passing the Withem amendment, much as I'd like to. So I guess I'm going to vote against it and bite my tongue and gag and hope we finally get to a fair tax system. Thank you.

SENATOR LABEDZ PRESIDING

SENATOR LABEDZ:      Senator Chambers, on the amendment to the committee amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS:    Yes. Thank you, Senator Labeledz. Members of the Legislature, the last few speakers, especially Senator Scofield, had indicated the difficulties in trying to grapple