

heard on this floor time, after time, after time about what's going to happen; going to create new jobs, bring in new money, hire new people, turn this over seven times. Ladies and gentlemen, what happens when you take 20 million bucks out of the economy? What happens when you do that? Somebody hurts. But this combined legislative intellect isn't smart enough to outsmart the least experienced businessman when it comes to making his or her business survive, that's why they're good at it. They do the things they have to do to survive. I've heard it said here this afternoon we're down here to preserve the tax base of the local governments. Nuts! That's not why I'm here. I hope that 47 or 48 others are not here for that purpose. We are here, ladies and gentlemen, to devise and craft, and pass into law a fair and equitable tax system. And, if that means that the local government is going to lose 40 million, or 120 million, so be it. If that means it's preserved, so be it. If that means it enhances their coffers, so be it. I don't think that's what we want to do. But the point is this, we are here to devise a fair system. We're collecting the tax...

SENATOR LABEDZ: One minute, Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...illegally. And we're saying to those of you who are not in a position of influence, who do not normally hire lawyers, you're going to be barred, you're going to be barred. And I cannot believe some of my colleagues who are saying at all costs we've got to deny these people access to the courts, because the reverse of that is tens of thousands of lawsuits, tens of thousands of filings. If you think you've got problems with the court system today, ladies and gentlemen, what will you have then? Again, I want to tell you, we're not here to preserve the tax base for the counties, or the cities, or the schools, we're here to draft and devise a fair and equitable tax system and if that is outside the call, then we ought to go home, we ought to go home. We ought not to have been here. There were those who insisted we didn't need to come, and all of a sudden it was an emergency that we get here, and we didn't see the bills until the last minute, and we testified before the committee without having the benefit of the amendments.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Schmit, your time is up.

SENATOR SCHMIT: And now we're being told by all means preserve the local tax base, even if it whipsaws the little guy around some more. Regardless of how you do it, you're going to do it