

PRESIDENT: Thank you. I understand we have an amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, when the Legislature recessed we were discussing the committee amendments, specifically sections 7 and 12 relating to the corporate income tax. I now have pending, Mr. President, an amendment to that portion of the committee amendments. That amendment is being offered by Senator Dierks. (Dierks amendment appears on page 124 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Dierks, please.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body, it just occurred to me yesterday when I was reading the amendment that Senator Landis had brought to the Executive Session of the Revenue Committee at Platte River State Park that it might be to the best interests of a number of people in Nebraska that this increase would not occur on the first \$50,000 or income and that it would be in the best interests of a greater number of Nebraskans that that increase would occur at the level of a \$100,000 income and over. So I drafted this amendment that will do that. It will raise the same number of dollars that Senator Landis is asking for. It will raise roughly \$12 million by the time it is in full effect. I have had circulated a copy of this amendment and an explanation of what it will do. My amendment would leave the zero to \$50,000 bracket at its current tax rate of 4.75 percent. The committee amendment would raise it to 5.51 and it just...I felt that maybe that I could serve my people better by seeing that that increase didn't occur. It does increase the amount that will be paid by those who earn \$100,000 and over from 6.65 to 8 percent. It amounts to about a 20 percent increase. The 50 to \$100,000 bracket would raise, when this thing is in full effect, about \$4 million and a \$100,000 plus income tax bracket would raise about \$8 million for a total of 12 million. These figures we got from the Revenue Department. I would urge your support of this amendment. I think that it does affect a great number of people in our state. Many corporations, many corporate farmers, many corporation ranches, many corporation small businesses that fall in that zero to \$50,000 bracket and I think this amendment would affect them favorably. So I would urge your support and at this time I'll give the rest of my time to Senator Landis to explain again what the original intent of the amendment was.