

with it the "Cap" Dierks graduation of the responsibility for tax paying. I do not think of this as being the one and only way to write that. Perhaps there are different graduations, perhaps there are different figures that can be used. What I look at this amendment and see is a concept of assessment of costs, assessment of tax responsibility. This is designed to raise \$12 million. It is designed to serve as a way of getting back to square one which is the amount of money that has been lost through the successful railroads' lawsuit and I think it's the flip side, it's the other part of what LB 7 is all about. Frankly, there are some pieces missing. Number one, there has not been a discussion of what exactly the graduation should be and, number two, the distribution method for once having collected the money, how it should be sent back to local political subdivisions. On the other hand, what is critical is for the Legislature to decide if real property taxpayers or the corporate sector will pick up the \$12 million hit. Currently, remember that in our history seven and a half, or about \$8 million are paid for in the first year of the hit out of the General Fund. In the second year it was absorbed in the middle of a \$98 million generalized property tax relief package that this Legislature sent out to local political subdivisions and to corporations themselves to the tune of 35 million bucks in that particular bill. The question before you now is, do you, without disturbing LB 7, wrestling with the problem of the recognition and the legitimization of this \$12 million hole, what do you do about filling it back up? Do you let sleeping dogs lie and let it fall to local political subdivisions and their limited resources of the already overburdened real estate taxes or do you strike out and look for the least taxed section of Nebraska which happens to be the corporate income tax beyond a doubt? I urge the adoption of the amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the amendment, Senator Moore, followed by Senators Schmit, Rod Johnson and Landis.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker and members, it's one of those occasions where it is time to say you can run but you can't hide. The simple fact of the matter is that everybody in here this summer has had many constituents come to them and say, what's going to happen if the railroads don't pay the tax, who is going to pay for it? It's as simple as that, and they are going to continue coming to ask you that question. Now you can, on the amendment to LB 7 you could say, well, they want to screw