

school issue. I do not and will not interpret any vote on this that is not on the same side that I am as that. I...I, clearly, understand the philosophical or the policy choice that is presented here. The issue that was raised with regard to the income tax and not going down the same path that we have in property taxes as well as sales tax, clearly an issue. We have very few exemptions in our income tax. I could only come up with four in the personal side, those being child care credit, any federal obligation that you might have, the individual exemption and then, of course, the very worthy 775 capital gains provisions in the income on the personal individual side. The A bill question, as raised by Senator Rasmussen, Senator Rasmussen, it is not just this year, it's every year where they are suspect and this clearly...this is an A bill that got pregnant between the last time that I introduced it and this current version because it tripled in size. But the question of not having enough money, do we ever have enough money? And does the state currently do a good job in terms of education? I would argue no, and I have advocated and been as strong a supporter on the public education side, I would argue, as anyone on this floor. That's not the question here. That is not the question. The question is education as a whole, and if we argue that, well, we're not doing a good enough job over here so that's the value choice for not doing anything in this area, I would think that we are looking through a veil that lets in very little light because this issue is one that affects all of us. It affects us whether we are public school supporters or private school supporters or, in my case, and I think most everybody's case, someone who happens to support both. I would argue that, frankly, private schools tend to be the ones that address the inner city problems when you look at it, not only in the Omaha area when you look at schools like Sacred Heart and Flannigan. They have not fled from the inner city. And when you look at that in terms of across the country...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...you will recognize that very often there are no other choices and it is not an elitist system. They're the only ones left to do the dirty work, in many cases. I think it's a very worthy proposal. And the issue of elementary versus secondary or postsecondary in terms of Senator Schimek's arguments, I don't know if half a billion dollars is enough at UNL, the scholarship programs, or the reduced resident tuition that we allow for here, but there are things out there and we do