

and more of the tax burden onto the average citizen in the state, whether that average citizen is a wage earner or a retired person or however you define that average citizen. Yet yesterday this body did, in fact, adopt an amendment which would say we will relieve the remaining people that are paying personal property tax from paying that personal property tax, get those remaining corporations and those remaining groups that are paying personal property tax, relieve them of their personal property tax, and we will simply shift that over onto the shopper, when that shopper goes to buy an item, pay a higher sales tax, and I think that is wrong. I think that is improper. Hopefully, if this were a bill that was coming in, had that been an amendment that would have had a 25 vote burden to get adopted, it would not have been adopted. We are now placed, because of our rules, in a situation in order to reconsider the Schellpeper amendment, we have to get a 25 vote adoption to reconsider that amendment. That is what I am offering. I hope that you are supportive of it. Senator Chambers visited with me this morning and he wanted to co-sign this amendment, although the rules do not allow us to do so because he did not vote with the...he was neither absent nor did he vote with the prevailing side, so he cannot co-sponsor the amendment or offer the amendment, but he feels very strongly about this and I had indicated I would give him some of my time. I think I indicated I would give you some of my time here, so I would like to yield the remainder of my time to Senator Chambers.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker, how many minutes do I have left?

SPEAKER BAACK: Six and a half.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, and I like the anticipation in your voice when you said that. Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I do feel very strongly about any effort made to raise the sales tax. I heard Senator Crosby make a comment, I heard Senator Robinson make a comment, and I think Senator Schrock about people loving to pay sales tax, loving to pay sales tax and income tax. Farmers don't pay income tax, so naturally they want the taxes raised high, and when over 50 percent of the income of the farmers is from direct government subsidies, you can understand their position of saying, shift it to the wage earners in the cities. All the people in the cities have from which to derive money is their