

motion. The fact that it was adopted, as stated earlier, by less than a majority is, I think, one of the clear reasons it should be reconsidered. I don't think we should effect tax policy changes without having a full complement to vote on the amendment. Whether it be up or down, I don't believe that should happen. I would like to see us strip the Schellpeper amendment from the proposal. I listened yesterday for approximately seven hours to the debate, participated in much of that, and what I heard taking place there was that on the funding side, after we did some of the other technical amendments, the funding issue was really the crux to the issue that was left. We had the surcharge that, as amended by Senator Lamb, sits before us with the 2 percent based on the property schedule. The, excuse me, the retailers fee, one half of that is out, and then the issue really boiled down to the sales tax on utilities. Was that exemption for ag and industrial and commercial one that should be borne by those companies who would also have to be bearing the surcharge on depreciation? I said yesterday and I will say again today that I would be supportive of this proposal,...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...advancing it over to Select File with the Lamb proposal in place, which, basically, shifted the sales tax away from utilities. Now I don't like the \$40 million, \$42 million proposal that Senator Lamb has in there, but I think between now and Select File, we can work on what is the best way in which to raise that money. I think Senator Lamb offered his proposal to say, look, let's find...here's a way to do it, here is one way; let's sit down and take a look at it. If we can't do that today, we will just, I guess, proceed to walk through the 12 amendments that are before us, and I have no problem doing that. We will have to vote each one of them up and down. I think some of them have merit. I think others will be a little redundant, but this will be the key vote on the Schellpeper amendment. I would hope there is much debate on this issue because I think it is a critical point in this overall...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR HALL: ...discussion of the personal property tax problem that I firmly believe we need to address before the end of the session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.