

with. We've tried to do that through amendments. I know that the, again, the discussion really centered around I think the whole issue of what is being called the urban and rural rift around the utilities tax. Should you reconsider and then have Senator Schellpeper's amendment in front of you and vote that amendment down, we would have the bill with the surcharge in it. We would have the collection fee in it, and we would have Senator Lamb's amendment, which struck the sales tax on utilities or replaced it with some other taxes in the business area. Now I do not like Senator Lamb's choices that he used to raise that replacement revenue, if you will, to offset the utilities tax, but I do believe that it is a good faith effort on his part to say, look, we can't absorb this. I am willing to look at that. I really think that that...I heard that loud and clear yesterday. What I am hearing today, though, I think is something different, and I hope its...I begin to hear an echo again from yesterday because I think we can work this out. It is not that difficult. I hear people saying I can support the surcharge, the collection fee seems to be a given. The only rub in this whole process so far has been the sales tax on utilities. Let's go ahead and repeal the Schellpeper amendment, reconsider it, vote it down, advance the bill, and work on a funding formula other than the sales tax on utilities, one that isn't I guess onerous for agriculture or any other specific entity of business, and that is my objection to Senator Lamb's proposal. It is industry specific, and that it picks out three or four different area of business and targets in on them, and we will be back to the same battle, only instead of agricultural interests waging that battle, it will be telephone interest, or railroad interests, or trucking interests who are waging that war. So I don't like the Lamb amendment but I think it would be good faith on the part of those individuals who don't want sales and income tax to support LB 829 as amended over to Select File and then go about the process and working on raising that revenue in some form or fashion that is palatable to everybody and doesn't hurt any one interest more than another. That is what I would like to see us do. I mean we can stand here this afternoon, this evening, and tonight, and talk about food tax, food tax credits. We can talk about a penny sales tax. We can talk about income and sales tax, corporate income, intangibles, sales tax, income tax, and all those things, and I am willing to do that, and I don't have a problem doing that. But I think that we will be spinning our wheels and we will be hearing echoes from last night, and voices may get raised again as we continue to fight over one very small portion of this whole