

know about the bill. Most of them wouldn't understand the impact because people on this floor don't understand the impact. I told you yesterday when you were adopting amendment, after amendment, after amendment that if you continued it, the Governor would have to veto the bill. Well, obviously, that became apparent and after the Governor came down off the roof of his office, I suppose yesterday, he was able to get back to some of you, you reconsidered the wisdom of your action. The starch came out of your backbone and once again you caved in. And that's all right, that's politics, I understand that. I just don't want you to think that some of us don't know any better. The votes are here. As I said earlier in the issue, I deeply regret the fact that rural legislators are frequently unable to compromise, are frequently unable to understand urban issues. I do not think I can be accused of that. The problem that concerns me is that we seem to have some of the same problems vice versa, urban legislators unable to understand problems of rural people. Let me explain the fallacy behind the reasoning that the benefits from the repeal of the personal property tax are being enjoyed by a certain group and, therefore, the cost of that should be paid by that same certain group. Is it not just as logical to understand and to reason that the burden of the unfair, improper personal property tax has been borne by a certain group for many, many years and that the same group, the general public, who has benefited from that tax ought to then now bear the burden? To me, if that's not true, then we ought just to put the tax back on and say, okay, it's not an unfair tax. Now Senator Rogers and I have a bill, it ought to be a bill, it ought to be a bill and be introduced before the Legislature and there will be those who will say it ought to have a public hearing. Ladies and gentlemen, we're talking about the exact same number of dollars. Whether you raise it by a tax on food, whether you raise it by a personal tax, whether you raise it by a surtax, an energy tax, get your head out of the sand, ladies and gentlemen, we're not talking about one dollar more one way or the other, it's whose pocket is it going to come from, whose pocket.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: The issue is very clear and on this floor the rural legislators who voted to do what they did will have to explain to their constituencies that for a short period of time they had a little bit of a chance to achieve equity in this situation and they threw it away. Now some of them are more