

think I represent maybe a mix. I have, as all of you know, agriculture background and we own some agriculture property and we also live not a bad area in Grand Island. I will tell you the valuation of my home in Grand Island has not gone up since 1983. That's not true with our agriculture land. I think last year a quarter section went up \$30,000 in value and that's pretty consistent with a lot of the agriculture land. I will tell you the perception that just because you own property which may or may not be paid for or you may own the bulk of that to the bank and the nature of the business, I have a problem why we're not addressing, as Senator Wehrbein, why aren't we addressing other property and the stocks and the bonds. I guess somehow or another it's untouchable. There's tax on some inheritance, some estate funds and so on that we maybe need to look at and to address. I can't support Senator Rogers' amendment at this time. I really appreciate all the work that someone has done on this and I think that it's too radical at this point, at least. It may give us some points to think about but far too radical to make that move and to support our education system in that manner. And I'm not quite so sure what it would even do to the small schools in some of those territories. But I did want to point out, I have some figures and which are exact figures of March 20th of this year when you think of tax and tax is...our schools, and so on, the average urban taxpayer in District 26, which happens to be Doniphan, when you're all finished, and I won't go down through this or bore you, is on a \$200,000 valuation or the average urban resident in that district is taxed on \$61,000. The average farmer in that district is taxed on \$757,000. So, in essence, one is paying \$15,000, about \$727 per student in school and the average urban is about \$1,232 and so that I think is consistent. But, again, that doesn't get us over our dilemma. That's our state and we all have to recognize that. But I do have a problem and I know that many small...people that have only a job and so on, a lot of them have been taken off the tax rolls and I see that there are tax benefits that some get that others do not get. But I would hope that by the time we're through the mix of this that we don't each one of us think that be it rural or be it urban that they're all floating in money and that we do think of everyone and be as fair as we can. But, at this point, I do have to say that I cannot accept Senator Rogers' proposal. I know someone really did a tremendous amount of work on it but I think it's too radical a change at this time.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute. Senator Smith.