

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members, I will be very brief. I will not be supporting AM1772 nor the advancement of the bill. As I look at it I realize Senator Hall is in a position I've been on or in with issues affecting natural resources where you're trying to fight off amendments as the bill is redrafted on the floor and it's nearly impossible to draft legislation or redraft legislation on the floor. And I full well expect that Senator Hall and the other members of the Revenue Committee as well as other members of this body can sit down off the floor and vote or work together in coming up with some compromise language because I believe we need to reimburse the political subdivisions for these losses. But there's an old adage, it's easier to push a boulder down the hill than it is up the hill and by moving this bill and with this amendment onto Select File, if we can reach no accord, no consensus on any new revenue plan. This bill as it is written now whether it is with or without the Lamb amendment affects particular groups that I will be very blunt and honest with you about, I don't think should be taxed or under this premise and so I'm not really willing to move this bill today. I think we can do whatever we have to do off the floor by leaving this bill on General File and then working out whatever new compromise that we want to develop and come back next week, come back later in the week and with this great compromise be able to move it onto Select, onto Final and pass it. But I just fear that if we keep nudging this bill a little bit closer to home, little bit closer to home the chances of reaching compromise will become less and less and you know I've listened almost all day and all of yesterday on the battle over this is an urban, rural, agriculture versus homeowner kind of battle. I hope that's not the case at all because I think we're all interested in equity to whatever group is involved in this issue but it concerns me a little bit that we are in a hurry to hurry up and get this thing across the board when I think we all recognize, as one reporter told me today or yesterday, as a matter of fact, this is the biggest issue affecting Nebraska this session. And if it takes time to deal with it, then we should take the time to do it. And I'm willing to stay here as long as it takes to do it whether it's on General File or Select File, but I'd just as soon leave the bill here. I don't see any particular reason or hurry up to move it to Select and then work out the compromise. Why not