

affect the work of the 3-R Committee. It may, I guess, once there is a decision on that, once the election is held it may have some impact but I don't think it changes anything in terms of what the committee is, I guess, given the authority to do. And I would say that we would go about looking at the tax system as a whole and proposing changes in that, whether they be constitutional or statutory, irregardless of what the outcome of the proposed constitutional amendment would be.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Senator Hall. I do have to say this, that I much prefer having Nebraskans do this study as opposed to the famous or infamous Syracuse tax study which Senator Vard Johnson proposed and did foist off on us a few years ago which was promptly shelved and it didn't report the things that Senator Johnson wanted to be reported. But I would just say this, I don't know if you want it or not but I can give you information that I've gathered from a number of meetings I've held across the state. My mail, my phone calls run probably eight or nine or ten to one. They say this, if you need more money, raise the sales tax and raise the income tax and stop playing around with everything else because one way or another somebody is going to...going to get his ox gored and it's going to be the guy who pulls on his pants one leg at a time and takes his dinner bucket and goes to work. It's going to be the small businessman. It's going to be the small farmer. It's not going to be the people who can fill the lobby with their representatives back there. My phone was ringing all morning in response to the five-cent-per-hour...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...tax paid by employers. And they said, we have no...we have no state employees. We have no government employees in these little towns, why do you want to make the businessman pay this tax? And so I'm really concerned, and while I've got the floor, I will make one more point and that is this, that we're going to have a hearing, I believe, tomorrow morning for one hour on the constitutional amendment. I don't think that is adequate, Senator Hall. I know that is the best you can do perhaps but I think it is totally inadequate. Most of the people in the State of Nebraska have not seen the constitutional amendment, much less have the opportunity to know what it does or how it would impact upon them. And so I think it's unfair that we are asked to act upon that with so little information. Maybe no one else cares but I do. In closing, I