

that going to come from? It's going to come from property taxes. It's going to come from the backs of the homeowners. And that is a far cry away from the sales tax portion that generators may pass on to all of their customers, not just homeowners, and I would argue that it moves farther and farther away from the whole idea of raising the revenue where the revenue was raised in the past, that being the business community. I would again urge you to reject the amendment. The \$100,000 cap is there because, frankly, it protects a number of big manufacturers, folks like Nucor, manufacturers that use tremendous amounts of energy in their workplace. With the total sales tax without a cap, there are a couple of them that would be paying individually, individually as businesses in excess of one and two million dollars. That is, I think, something that the amendment, as it currently exists, would continue to protect those very few people. We're only talking about probably a dozen who would be affected by the cap. The rest of them would fall, very likely, well within it. The smaller individuals will pick it up and, frankly, there are very few businesses out there when you talk about the mom and pop kinds of businesses that rely on utilities for anything other than to run the cash register and keep the lights and the air conditioning and the furnace going. So it's, in proportion, I think it's a very fair amendment. It lets us get to those individuals who were paying personal property tax on some of those very same items that the electricity sales tax will be levied against that they need to run and function in their business capacity. I would urge you to reject Senator Hefner's amendment and appreciate your support to do that.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Withem, on the Hefner amendment.

SENATOR WITHEM: I would call the question.

SPEAKER BAACK: The question...do I see five hands? Yes, I do. We will now vote on ceasing debate. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on ceasing debate. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Debate has ceased. Senator Hefner, would you like to close on your amendment?