

February 20, 1992 LB 1063, 1120

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR HEFNER: ...takes off all personal property from the tax rolls except motor vehicles and I know the supporters of 1063 says, well, we've got to put this back on so we get the centrally assessed property back on the tax rolls. Ladies and gentlemen, the railroads are not going to pay any personal property tax. It's that simple because they are going to come back with a 4-R Act that Congress has passed and so, therefore, I would urge you to vote against this amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hefner. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Madam President and members, I, too, rise to oppose the amendment, at the same time agree with the introducer of it, Senator Hall, said. You know, finally this morning, after literally 12 months of headlines, criticism, compliments, controversy, the time has finally come to choose which direction we're going to go. It's one of those things I've been accused of being parochial and not being statesman and it's time for me to wake up and smell the coffee, and I think we all need to do that. I mean, people are frustrated, people want something done. Before we can start solving this problem, we have to decide what direction we're to go. Are we going to go in the direction of 1120 which exempts personal property from taxation? Are we going to go the direction of the 3-R plan that places things back on the tax rolls after a 20-year hiatus. That is a choice you have to make. Now procedurally, the supporters of the 3-R plan do not want to have this come up today. I understand that. They want to see 1120 fail first. And if I were in their shoes, I don't fault them for that, but nevertheless, the body has to decide what direction we're going to go. It's that simple and it's one of those things where it's...everybody says, well, can't you compromise? Can't you compromise, people in my position where supporters of the 1120 concept will go in that direction, can't you compromise with the 3-R plan? Can't we find some middle ground? Well, ladies and gentlemen, there is no middle ground. It's like abortion, it's like issues of high emotional value, you're either for it or against it. It's that simple. What direction do you want to go? It's like going on the interstate, is there a compromise between going towards Omaha and going towards Grand Island. There is no in between. You have to decide what direction you're going to go. And I hope if not this morning, as soon as