

amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Madam President. You know we're talking about LB 1120 or LB 1063 or whatever tax bill is up here. We all realize that whatever taxes are going to be levied it will eventually end up being paid for by the consumers, you and I, whoever they are. And trying to divide out which section pays the most and which section pays the least really is the problem that everybody tries to face. We all agree that the basis of our problem is that property is being asked to deliver way too many tax dollars in comparison to the services rendered to property. Property tax dollars are being spent for so many social things that should be paid by the population as a whole and through shifting like 1120 is asking us to do from some property, a small amount over to some more sales and income tax, is somewhat fair but it still doesn't solve the basic property tax problem. There needs to be a base identified that we can go out and tax that represent the obligation of the citizens of the state as a whole and not so much whether you own property or not. Our state is now, as our nation is now, a mercantile and service oriented economy. The United States and our state fifty years ago was a property oriented economy and there are ways we can identify those tax bases out there with the evolution of the electronic record keeping, you can know and measure business basis. We should be looking at those tax. As far as Senator Hillman's amendment, it's simply withdrawing more of the revenue we need in order to get rid of the personal property tax, you know, that is completely unfair, unable to be administered, impossible to enforce. What is it, only about 20 or 25 percent able to be collected on personal property. It's ridiculous to try to go back to that antique method. Yet we keep trying to chip away from what we're trying to do to replace personal property. And I agree with Senator Hall and Senator Schmit and those of us that are trying to be fair and remove personal property from tax rolls, and I'd ask you to help us defeat this amendment to the amendment by Senator Hillman.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Elmer. Mr. Clerk, do you have items for the record?

CLERK: Well, Madam President, just an announcement. Senator Nelson would like to have a meeting of the Retirement Committee underneath the south balcony; Retirement Committee, south