

February 24, 1992 LB 1120

We provide the hospitals for him to do his work. We provide the courthouse for attorneys to do their work. I...I can't find anyone on the floor here, outside of the farmers, who have personal property tax. Now a farmer has to have from 250 to 300 thousand dollars worth of equipment just to do his business and to farm. So when you compare that to school teachers, when you compare that to plumbers, when you compare that to contract executives, when you compare that to Chamber of Commerce executives, when you compare that to bee people, what do they have for an inventory? What do they have to have to start a business? It sure doesn't come to anywhere to 250 to 300 thousand dollars. Now I know that you have heard that the farmers have a lot of money and it's been stated on this floor that they drive new pickups and they buy this and they buy that. It's true, some farmers do have money, but the vast majority of the farmers and especially the young farmers do not drive the new pickups,...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR HABERMAN: ...do not buy the new equipment. And if I could figure out real quick what business Senator Chizek is in, I would ask him what kind of personal property tax or inventory he would have. And he would probably get up and give us a 15 or 20-minute dissertation as to why I'm a bad guy. But he's a nice guy, Senator Chizek is. So I'm going to support raising the sales tax. I'm going to support moving 1120 as the people I have talked to do not want to put the personal property tax back on the tax rolls. So we should finance 1120 so we don't have to put the personal property tax back on the tax rolls. It's a bad tax. It's a liar's tax. And I even got in trouble when I was at a meeting of 150 to 200 people saying, well, I think it's a bad tax, I agree with you, it's...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR HABERMAN: ...a liar's tax, I'm even going to lie. Well, why not, you know, are they going to come out...well, they'll probably come out and check me now that I have said that.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Thank you, Madam President.