

personal property tax is wrong, then we ought not to have it on motor vehicles either. But nobody is purporting to do that. Why is that? It's because those people that are paying motor vehicle taxes are not an organized lobby. They are not able to get on the telephone and PAC meetings and call senators and write letters ergo, the argument on...on motor vehicles is not even before us. I had an amendment a while ago to do so, decided not to run it because I had run too many amendments already on this. But what I'm suggesting is there is no intellectual honesty from those who say we ought to repeal personal property. If they were, we would be repealing the tax on motor vehicles also. Motor vehicles are personal property. They are used by many people to earn an income, to either transport products back and forth or to at least, very least, transport those people to their jobs but that isn't even under consideration. If you're going to be serious about repealing personal property, then you ought to include those, point number one. Point number two, why should we not repeal personal property? I think the answer is quite simple in our history. What happened the last time we had a lot of exemptions on personal property? Our predecessors here in the Legislature stood on this floor, made all kinds of promises, long and hard, to the citizens that we will replace lost revenue at the local level with revenue from the state level. And that promise was broke...it was kept the first year and then broken every year after that. As the valuation of the lost revenue raised, the state support did not. And what happened? Owners of real property, farmers are owners of real property, businesses are owners of real property, and more importantly, as far as I'm concerned for my constituency, residential owners, owners of real property were left with a tax burden. That is what happened then. That is what will happen this time. That is why we should not tax...repeal the tax on personal property. The third point, Senator Peterson made some remarks regarding the voters, when the voters go to the polls, about how complicated this is. Senator Peterson, you're right, this is complicated. And my prediction is that my residents, when they go to the ballot, if this amendment passes and they're asked to vote to allow the Legislature to not tax personal property and they understand that people that own personal property are not going to pay property taxes on that, and all they have to do is vote to tax themselves 1 percent sales tax, it doesn't take a Rhodes' scholar to understand what they're going to do. They're going to vote no. They're going to vote no. They don't want to pay the sales tax, the increased sales tax to give a break to