

any of their services were taxed. And there is a coalition, it is an interesting irony that I found since I have been in this body, where there is the same coalitions that are against increasing property taxes are also for keeping the lid on expansion of sales tax and it just doesn't work. You have either got to look at expanding the tax base in a real way to impact property taxes, or you have got to increase the sales tax significantly above what it is now, and I hope that we, as a body, next year, or whatever, can take a look at our tax scheme in a broad sense, in its broadest sense, and take a look at expanding the tax base because we do exempt an awful lot of things out of our tax base in the sales area. So with that, Mr. President, I would offer this proposal for compromise purposes. I think there is a very valid reason for staying with LB 1120. There are components in LB 1120 which make sense. LB 1063, there are components in that that make sense, and, obviously, what I am doing here is amending LB 1063 into LB 1120. Again, I realize that was done on the first day of debate here, but what I have attempted to do is, with Senator Schellpeper's help, is to propose other options to LB 1063, or compromises, if you will, to LB 1063 that make sense so that we can get on with this debate and start talking about the meat of it and where we are really going to go. It seems to me fairly obvious, from all of the discussions by all the parties to this dispute, I guess we could call it a dispute because they are called foes...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR ASHFORD: ...in the paper, but, basically, we are going to do something with LB 1063 or the language in LB 1063 that makes sense so that we have a tax plan that makes sense for the total state. So I think rather than to wait till some other day when we have some other bill before us, let's take what we have before us, let's make the amendments that are appropriate, let's get something on to Select File so that we can get this thing done in time for the deadlines in mid-March. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Discussion on the amendment to the amendment offered by Senator Ashford. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well, Mr. President and members of the body, would Senator Ashford yield to a couple of questions.