

February 27, 1992 LB 1120

Legislature. Thank you for being with us. And in the south balcony, we have guests of Senator Dierks and they are ten students from O'Neill High School with their instructor. Would you folks please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thank you for being with us. Senator Hall, you are next, did you wish to speak to this technical amendment? He waives off. Senator Withem, to the technical amendment.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I will, Mr. Speaker, to the same extent that the other speakers have spoken to the technical aspects of the amendment. I support the technical amendment. I think Senator Ashford found something in his original amendment that needs to be corrected and I will vote for the technical amendment. At this point, I don't believe I am going to vote for the Ashford amendment, although I will be very honest with you, it has some appeal, more as a signal and a symbol than in the merits of the specific proposal. The merits to the amendment are that, yeah, it does recognize a shift somewhat in the debate where we are no longer talking about repealing personal property as opposed to taxing it. If the Ashford amendment ultimately is adopted to the Hall bill, we will have two plans out here on the floor that both tax personal property in the same fashion. Is that correct, Senator Ashford? Okay, so that particular fork in the road that Senator Moore was talking about a week ago, we will have chosen, chosen a course of action. My concern, and then, secondly, we will be then talking about what other adjustments to our tax code need to take place to create a proposal in here that will receive majority support for a bill, number one, and will then form the coalition that will lead to a 40-vote majority in here for a constitutional amendment, and then send that amendment on to the voters. My concern is still the same that it was way back when we first started. The very first amendment to the committee amendments of 1120 dealt with sales tax on services. We are revisiting the sales tax on service issue. Keep in mind, I don't know, a lot of you are looking at the calendar today, if you are incumbents up for election, you know today is filing deadline for incumbents. The reason it is filing deadline for incumbents is it is 75 days from today until the primary election, 75 days, two and a half months until the primary election. The game plan, as I understand it, still is to ask the citizens of Nebraska to go to the polls 75 days from now to approve an amendment to the Nebraska Constitution allowing this Legislature a different methodology of assessing tax on personal and real property. Accompanying that, if this amendment is