

realize many of you said you're not going to do it. And I worry about that a lot and I'm sure many of you do. But let's think about where we've got to head and say, do you really think that we can justify having everything back on, regardless of where you live in Nebraska? I just don't think we can.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Warner, you're next.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, Senator Wehrbein, you made some very excellent comments which I certainly concur totally. A couple of things that have been said I wanted to make reference to were the 39 million that was on the sheet that Senator Withem passed out, that is adjusted on the basis of reducing mill levy rates that would...not mill levy, but tax rates. That is a net increase to ag if we do nothing. Secondly,...oh, and yes, I should also indicate that on those sheets ag residential property is included with agricultural valuations, not up with residential, which makes some difference also. Several have talked about we should use the route of a flat-out exemption because it was going to be easier for dealers. Well, I, too, have talked to a number of dealers over the last three days. Admittedly, I was calling to ask about buying a tractor so maybe they were less apt to be critical. But, nevertheless, I did ask, you know, how would they see, as customers come in, making a decision of whether a piece of equipment, a tractor that was going to be purchased, if it was going to be used on a construction project, in a warehouse, on a farm, how would they know, what verification would they need, what their liability was for failure to collect the sales tax, even though they have a paper that the guy signs, or whatever, without exception, at least those that I talked to, much preferred the refund because it was much simpler and much less chance of error. The way the bill...amendment is drafted addresses the border bleed and it puts in a penalty that is significant and that penalty is that should equipment show up on the depreciable schedule, which there is a significant penalty for failure to do so, but if a piece of equipment shows up on the depreciable personal property schedule on which the use tax was not paid, then that use tax becomes due and is to be paid and the penalty is they don't have the opportunity to get a refund on it. That's a heavy penalty. And if there's anything that ought to help those farm implement dealers around the border with the problem they have, this, I think, will be significant. Another thing that I want to talk about too, we've