

No one is going to like it, and I will tell you the second thing. The public is not going to accept the admonition that the courts made us do it, the courts made us do it. There are alternatives. You talk about a compromise. I had something to do with the original policy that took the tax off personal property. I will accept any kind of proposal that will continue a tax program that does not tax personal property. I have, as Senator Moore has indicated, never supported the removal of the sales tax from farm equipment. I preferred to pay it once and be done with it. What we are doing here today is reversing tax policy and going back to an archaic policy...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...which will not stand. It will not be here a year from now or two years from now.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Schrock, followed by Senators Beutler, Conway, Warner, Robak, Hall, Lynch, and Elmer. Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Thank you, Madam President and members of the Legislature. I'd like to briefly make two points. Senator Ashford made reference to the fact that he has a hard time going home to his constituents and explaining to them why farm machinery is exempt and why their construction business machinery is not exempt. I think Senator Beutler also referred to that. The frustrating thing to me, and you have got to realize I tell my constituents when I vote that I think like a farmer and I act like a farmer, it is very frustrating for me to use a planter for three weeks out of the year and park it in a shed that is also taxed, that construction machinery can be used if it is not raining, and farmers should be happy that it is raining outside, that should lift your spirits a little bit, but it is frustrating for me to pay taxes on a 12-month basis on something I use three weeks out of the year. My combine, if I am lucky, I use 60 days. A hiller that I make a trench in between my corn rows to run water down, I have got about a ten day span I can hill my corn. It either gets too tall and I break it off or it is too short and I cover it up. That hiller, use it six, seven days, but it is taxed on a 12-month basis, and it is very frustrating to me to pay two taxes on that piece of machinery when its useful life on an annual basis is such a short period of time. And if you are in the restaurant business, or if you are in the construction business, you can