

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...I would vote for the bill, unless you struck all the sections. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Schellpeper, followed by Senators Warner, Hillman, and Elmer.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Madam President and members. I also rise in opposition to this amendment. It acts like this amendment is going to be so burdensome that I think every county assessor would have to have a tax consultant, or a tax expert on their staff. It...we're trying to say that we really don't trust any business or farmer to file these reports. We're going to demand that you send in all of your income tax to us so that we can look at it, and so that we know where we're going to tax and how we're going to tax all of our equipment. I think we can only go so far with the government trying to dictate to people what we can do and what we can't do. LB 1063 is an attempt to get at the records of almost every taxpayer in Nebraska. And this is another attempt to do that. I think eventually we're going to have to...we've going to have some lawsuits filed that are going to say that you can't do this. But I think 1063, the whole bill is going to have some lawsuits filed against it, so this will be just another attempt, another lawsuit to be filed against it. But I think this is a step backward for our tax system. By putting this in there and have everybody file this with the county assessor, I don't know how many county assessors we really have that are really knowledgeable enough to know the tax system for all of the different business in Nebraska. I think this is a bad amendment and a bad precedent to start at this time. So I would be in opposition to this amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, the...again, I wanted to repeat that the bill, as it now stands, does provide to the assessor the authority, if they wish...if they need to use it, to request the work papers to substantiate that depreciable equipment has been reported. Senator Hillman's amendment is for the purpose of mandating it would be done in every case. And, as has been discussed, it would mean additional papers that one would have to file. I indicated, at least in my case, that, as I recall, that wasn't very many extra sheets but, obviously, as Senator Wickersham has pointed out, a