

sure that there will be those who will say it's not a fair method of raising revenue. But I would suggest it is just as fair as any of the other methods that I have seen thus far. I want to emphasize again, and again, and again that pretty soon it will become apparent to all of us that I do not intend to mildly surrender the fight over the personal property tax issue. We may lose, and I may lose, and the people of Nebraska may lose, but I do not intend to throw away a system which was going in the right direction and traded for a system which is outmoded and unworkable, and which, under 1063, will be totally unworkable without a fight. I know there are those who like to lull us into compliancy with all of the various reasons why this bill is the perfect bill. Well, ladies and gentlemen, in the 23 plus year I have been here, this is my first experience where we have ever taken a legislative bill, attempted to draft it, and pass it across to Final Reading, and then shape the constitutional amendment around it. The constitutional amendments and the Constitution ought to be the parameters, ought to be the parameters of legislation. We ought to adopt the constitutional amendment first, and then adapt the legislation to it, not vice versa. We are doing it exactly backwards, ladies and gentlemen, and we will, if we continue this course, rue the day that we have done so. No one has even raised that issue. It was suggested, I believe, by Senator Hall at one time, that the proper system would have been to have passed a constitutional amendment and then proceeded with the bill. But that was not looked upon with favor, because we were not able to...to chisel, and punch, and poke, and shape the bill...excuse me, would you hand these out, please. Mr. Clerk, with your permission, I'd like to substitute 3365 for the amendment which you have on your desk.

PRESIDENT MOUL: If there are no objections, it's so ordered. (Schmit amendment AM3365 appears on page 1231 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you. I would hope that before this amendment has been discussed in any detail that the members of this body would review the procedure we are following. Ask yourselves if this makes sense that we take a single bill, complicated bill, a very, very difficult bill for most people on this floor to understand, let alone the hundreds and hundreds of individuals across the State of Nebraska who will be called upon to interpret the bill and implement the bill.