

Legislature, folks, and welcome to Lincoln. Our next speaker is Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Call the question.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: The question has been called. Do I see five seconds? I do. The motion is, shall debate cease? All in favor vote aye, all opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Debate is ceased. Senator Schrock, to close on the amendment.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I urge the body to carefully consider what's taking place here. If this amendment fails, perhaps it will be the end of 1272. I don't believe the votes are out there. As much as I would like to help my teachers, and I think they deserve to be helped, it is a profession that takes care of our young children, it molds them for the future. They're probably the most important people, outside of their parents, that affect our children's lives. But I cannot and will not raise gasoline taxes, and that's what you're going to do if you take it out of the Highway Trust Fund. Just no two ways about it. I have had contractors call me. I have had county supervisors call me. I have had farmers call me and, believe you me, farmers pay a lot of road tax. We even have to haul our fertilizer in on trucks and those trucks pay sales tax on the fuel they buy. So it's going to hit agriculture again if you take it out of the Highway Trust Fund. What is wrong with taxing pop? It's a luxury item, nobody needs it. I don't think 1.9 cents per 12 ounces is going to stop anybody from buying pop. And I don't think there's going to be any border bleeding, Senator Hefner, because in Iowa you've got to pay a deposit and return it back to the store if you want a nickel on it. There's a five-cent deposit on a can if you buy it in Iowa. I just don't think people are going to cross the border to buy pop and save 11 cents a six-pack. It's just not going to happen. What is wrong with taxing a luxury item, taxing an item that we all use? I urge you to vote for this and if you vote for this, Senator Moore and I will buy Pepsi and Coke for everybody on the floor this afternoon.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: You've heard Senator Schrock's closing.