

you feel about this, we know you feel deeply about it because you were involved in the removal of the tax from personal property, but after all, a year or two from now, we can come back if it doesn't work and we'll take it all off again. And I said, if you can't get ten votes, fellas, to stop the constitutional amendment from being proposed, you tell me how you get 25 votes to take the tax off personal property, when 70 percent of the personal property is exempt and the majority of the property which is taxed is going to be rural and small town businesses? Well, that's exactly where you're at now. You are buying a proposal. You are assisting Senator Warner and Withem in correcting the mistakes they have in 1063. Very laudable. Very laudable, except you should not be quite that naive if you think you're going to get the same kind of cooperation in return. Senator Withem said in a promise, I don't consider that a threat, that's a promise, he said if this becomes adopted I will introduce an amendment to remove the sales tax exemptions from farm machinery, and he's got the votes to make it stick. He's got them. He knows that. This is not...no bar...no gamble for Senator Withem. The problem is, ladies and gentlemen, there are few times on this floor that you can stand up and exercise your right to speak on behalf of principle. When Senator Warner talks of the matter of equity and other issues in his amendment, then you ought to talk the same way here. How can you stand on this floor and accept a fertilizer tax, which is four times as bad on one type of fertilizer as it is on another, and then say we can live with it? We can live with anything, ladies and gentlemen, till we go broke. That's exactly right. You are accepting a tax on an industry which cannot pass it on. We're selling corn today for less than I sold it for 44 years ago. And you say, well, we'll live with it. I can tell you a lot of those things you can live with, ladies and gentlemen, until you can't do it anymore. We are embarking upon a tax program which is negative for Nebraska, not just for agriculture. It's negative for Nebraska. It's a program which is not popular. It's a program which is endorsed and supported by a very small minority because it's geared to favor a very small minority and the publicity that attends it leads people to believe that there is no alternative. There is an alternative. I believe the people will accept it. The people will say "no" to the constitutional amendment and then the tax will all go back on, though not totally. It won't go back on the 775 exemptions. That gulf stream too will still fly unimpeded, unburdened with the personal property tax, but the old Bonanza will be taxed again and all the rest of those little airplanes. So what I'm