

your taxes. And the second point that I would make is that these aren't, we aren't taxing household property. We aren't taxing entities, this isn't a penalty that's going to result in county attorneys charging little old ladies for not reporting their household goods. This is a penalty that would apply to businesses, and to agricultural interests that have to report the property that they own. And they deal with paperwork, they deal with requirements that are imposed on them by the federal government and by the state government all the time. It's not as if this is something that's going to catch them off guard. I don't think this issue probably at this point is catching anyone in the state off guard. And a county attorney would simply have the option of charging an individual whose avoiding taxes under this statute. I think an individual that had made an honest mistake in not reporting some property that he or she owned would not be thrown into jail for six months. That's just not going to happen. But I think it is important that we have a penalty in place that encourages people to pay their taxes and that won't have the result that a business could sit down and say, you know the penalty for this is just so slight that I'm just not going to report this and hope I get away with it. I would encourage you to support the Hall amendment.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Senator Will. I'll now recognize speakers in the following order--Senator Schmit, Senator Landis, Senator Lynch, Senator Robak, Senator Kristensen, and Senator Schellpeper. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I just want to make a point that I think was made a little bit by Senator Hefner, and of course I believe Hefner probably voted for the advancement of LB...or the adoption of the amendment. But in any case, the point I want to make is this, the 50 percent penalty is a very serious penalty. Number two, the rest of the penalties are also severe, particularly in light of the fact that this Legislature, under one guise or another, is going to reimpose some kind of personal property taxes. I've just walked you through several different questions and answers relative to what is personal property. My question is this, I would suspect that you will see the greatest transfer of artwork from businesses to individual ownership than you have seen in a long, long time. And if, in fact, some vigorously active assessor decides that I'm evading the law, or evading the tax by doing so, and that I did not really make a transfer, then that individual may decide that I did not properly file, and that my