

than three hours away from that spot, almost, when we had a constitutional amendment brought to us to correct the whole system because the sky was falling, according to some. Well, it is not, and what you will do is you will...what you will do forever, what you will do forever is you will foreclose the opportunity to affect real tax policy changes, changes that will be beneficial to all Nebraskans, not just the homeowners that happen to be in my district, or the business people that happen to be in Senator Schmit's district, or the farmers that happen to be in Senator Schrock's district. That is not the case. What we have to do is look at it as a whole, and until we do that, yeah, there is a lot of rhetoric running around. A lot of people are saying some nasty things and I'm head nasty. But the fact of the matter is that is because there has been so much frustration built up over a system that we have that does not look at the entire tax problem. It is not just a personal property tax problem. It is not. Everyone knows that when they stop and think about it, but that is all we are willing to deal with because we are unwilling to deal with the unknowns. Remember the talk and the conversation when we dealt with 829, and the funding formulas for that. Amendment such as sales tax on services, they were terrible, and it was just ungodly that we might even be thinking of that. Surcharge on depreciation that went over 2 percent was going to be a terrible burden on the farmer. Maybe that is why we are rushing to get this done because the fear of dealing with the tax system as a whole is more than we can stand to think about. And, frankly, I'm beginning to think that. It is more than we are willing to bite off and...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...chew, but yet we are willing to send it to the voters, when we have so much disagreement amongst ourselves, and say, let them decide. Let them. They are the ultimate source of wisdom and knowledge with all tax policy, and you know as well as I do that outside forces will have more impact on them. Television commercials will have more impact on them than will statistics and understanding of good tax policy that they can't achieve in less than two months. I don't think it is fair. I think that is why they sent us down here. If we have to meet as a committee as a whole, bang out tax policy, do it under what some may consider a crisis situation, history tells us it is the only way true tax reform in this state gets done. Unfortunately, I can't change my mind. I don't buy the