

Department of Revenue, and those forms, at least thus far, have not been exactly easy to come by, though I think they are becoming more easier to come by as we move into it. But, nevertheless, you have to go find the form. You send it into the Department of Revenue. There is, you know, there is several months can pass before the Department of Revenue actually gives you your check back, and there is an appeal process there. And I'd just argue it's a very cumbersome process and a very indirect if something that I argue could be done just as well, satisfy the same policy by doing it directly. And that directly is exempting farm machinery from sales tax up front. The reason that's important, it's not like you were talking about buying a \$4.99 item, paying 25 cents sales tax. We're talking about a major piece of machinery, a combine can well cost well over \$100,000. Let's assume you are buying a combine for \$100,000, now you pay, at least where I'm from you'd pay \$5,000 in sales taxes. Usually, unless you're just tremendously wealthier than I or the operation I'm involved in, you have to go get a loan for that money. So you get a loan to pay the sales tax. You then file the refund. Over a period of time you probably will get it back. But not only do you lose the time value of that \$5,000 while you're paying that sales tax, while you go get a loan and you pay interest on it, lose the value of the money. You also, since Senator Coordsen's amendment actually solves this problem, but presently what you do, that \$5,000 in sales tax actually becomes part of the value. Not only do you pay the sales tax, and you get that money back, but it's actually the purchase price, and you could well be paying personal property tax on that money as well. Not to mention the fact that of that \$5,000 the retail collection fee is kept by the seller of the equipment. It's kept, I think it's at 3 percent now, or 1.5, I forget what it is now, it's 2 1/2 now, they keep the 2 1/2 percent of that \$5,000, that's, in essence, what the state pays the seller to collect the sales tax for us. A sales tax that we were, in turn, going to write a check in total right back to the purchaser of that equipment. So, arguably, that is...I wouldn't call it a windfall, because they're doing what they have to do, they're collecting the sales tax. But we are paying somebody to collect the sales tax that the state, in turn, pays back. And, you know, that's what we're talking about 70 to \$80,000 the state is paying somebody to collect the sales tax that we, in turn, just write a check back. So it just does not make a whole lot of sense to me. The policy is to exempt farm machinery from sales tax. I previously had always opposed that, because I'd always wanted to keep the personal property tax exemption. But