

They get the votes because they invest money in campaigns and they bring people to this body whose point of view represents their own. If you took all of the money that is contributed by farmers toward legislative campaigns and converted it to \$1 bills, it wouldn't fill Senator Labeledz's candy dish. It's just that simple. Whether you like it or not, ladies and gentlemen, that's the name of the game. No one likes to refer to that on this floor but that's how bills get passed. You elect people who think the way you do. No reason why we can't have a rural vote from Omaha if we have someone who thinks like we do. Senator Labeledz has given us many votes. Many other rural votes have come from Omaha and Lincoln delegation members when they thought we had a reasonable point of view. We have to do a better job. I think in the future there's a chance that we can come back and convince some of those persons that we can craft a better tax policy. But, as of now on this floor, the votes are probably not there. I will support Senator Lamb's motion...Senator Lamb's amendment. I will oppose the Withem motion. But the facts are that it's time that the rural members of this body grow up and recognize and the rural lobbyists recognize that it isn't the old system anymore. It's a numbers game. Reason, logic play very little part in what takes place on this floor. Started back in the middle eighties. It has become progressively more of a numbers game. I might also add, it's a lot easier...

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...to take over the system than it is to run it. That's why we're going to have to come back and work on 829 after the general election. But the facts are, ladies and gentlemen, it's a numbers game as of now. The rurals have lost the fight and the Farm Bureau had better go back to the printing presses and explain to their membership that they were either naive or didn't know what was going on when they said we can come back in future sessions and change that statute and exempt all of personal property. We're not going to change that section of the statute unless, ladies and gentlemen, they make substantial changes in the makeup of the Legislature, which I do not see in the near future. Ladies and gentlemen, I support LB 3 as it sits now on Final Reading.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Warner,