

November 11, 1992 LB 1

happened yesterday. One of them was that after we had reached the fertilizer tax agreement the administration sent over an amendment which violated that agreement by changing the date so that we only had six weeks to buy fertilizer at that lesser tax price. Then came along this large appropriation to administer the bill. I think that's wholly unjustified. It's not going to cost them that much, I don't believe. They've got people crawling all over in that Revenue Department, it's not going to cost them those huge amounts of money that we're talking about that was added to the appropriations yesterday. Also, there is no commitment from the Governor to eliminate the tax on breeding livestock. He says we'll look at it, but there's no commitment there and I don't think it's going to happen. And that is really an injustice that I can't condone. And by voting for this bill I feel that I am condoning that sort of an attitude. There is no indication that the Governor is interested in reducing property tax, not one bit. So here we are at a situation where property tax is the most onerous tax in the state, yet we have a Governor who is not willing to take a look at methods of reducing that tax. Then I still have my original objection to LB 1 which was that centrally assessed people, corporations are getting a \$5.5 million tax break, nobody ever talks about that. Under the original 829 they would have paid \$5.5 million more than they will now. They will, under this bill, get the refunds. We don't hear anything about that in the media and I'm amazed that that is allowed to go forward without at least some conversation about it. As you know, LB 829 was crafted in such a manner that the people that would most benefit would pay. That was...and, of course, it was not 100 percent perfect but that was the reason the 4 percent and 2 percent depreciation surcharges were put in there and so now we're jacking down, because of the Supreme Court ruling, the 4 percent on centrally assessed to 2 percent, which gives them a \$5.5 million tax break and there's nothing in this bill that compensates for that. So, with all those things in mind, I'm not going to vote for the bill tomorrow.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lamb. Senator Schmit, followed by Senator Warner.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Madam Chairman and members, editorial in the World-Herald this morning. I'll paraphrase it, having some copies made now, said that we needed to do what we are doing here to help farmers. Let the record show that this farmer did not need any of that help, not in LB 1, not in 829, not in any