

make any sense to me. And, further, it does not make any sense to me to use the 20 percent income tax rebate that the voters approved, as a part of the 1059 package, as aid to schools for economic development. If you want to talk about a radical policy change, I think that's it. Why on earth would we break that faith at this moment with the voters of the State of Nebraska and say all of a sudden that the 20 percent of your income tax that you thought was going to a school district is instead going to an economic development project? And instead of that rebate coming to your school district and lowering your property taxes, we're actually going to increase your property taxes because we gave it away. That's the real issue, not whether we can eventually do something with the income tax rebate for other reasons, not whether it's a minor reduction in the incentives that we want to give, but whether or not you want to use property tax dollars...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: ...to support economic development. I don't believe that's appropriate. They wouldn't even be property tax dollars that were closely associated with the project. They might be property tax dollars from Harrison, for goodness sakes. I certainly am not in favor of that kind of policy. The amendment that I'm offering will prevent that rather silly result.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Is there any further discussion of the Bernard-Stevens amendment to the Wickersham amendment? Seeing none, Senator Bernard-Stevens, do you wish to close?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President. And, Senator Wickersham, certainly no offense was taken, because if you put a herring into a good sour cream sauce, it is very, very good sometimes and very satisfying. But, nonetheless, absolutely, absolutely, the red wine sauce would be superb. Senator Wickersham actually made the point better than I could have. When Senator Wickersham talked about these are very hotly contested issues on the income tax rebate side, he is absolutely correct, and that is absolutely why we do not want to, on a Select File economic development package, agree to a change on that process that, in essence, hasn't really had a public hearing, that is very, very controversial, that is something that we are going to have to, as a legislative body, deal with