

Legislature, this in all probability will be the last amendment that I will attempt on 1114. It's a very important amendment, it's a very most important amendment that I've offered. It is in the Journal, I believe. If it's not, it really doesn't matter because the concept is very simple. It basically says that the sales tax will be raised from five to five and one-half percent, which will raise approximately \$80 million, and that \$80 million, other than what goes...other than motor vehicle trailer and semitrailer sales, will be dedicated for school aid purposes. So that this particular package, which is defective, in my opinion, and unnecessarily cautious, in my opinion, for some very convoluted political reasons, would at least have added to it for the protection of the schools who, in some cases, may be losing as much as 30 percent of their property tax revenues, is adding a measure of replacement revenue, not for the entire amount, but for a portion of which perhaps comes to a third or a fourth of the amount of money that will be lost. I wanted to take a moment and just read a little piece to you of a book called Summer Meditations. It's by a fellow named Vaclav Havel, who many of you will recognize as the President of the Czech Republic. It's about politics, morality and civility and about his transition from private citizen to the political life, and has some things in it, I think, that are worth thinking about. He says near the beginning of the book, despite the political distress I face every day, I am still deeply convinced that politics is not essentially a disreputable business. And to the extent that it is, it is only disreputable people who make it so. I would concede that it can, more than other spheres of human activity, tempt one to disreputable practices and that it therefore places higher demands on people. But it is simply not true that a politician must lie or intrigue. That is utter nonsense spread about by people who, for whatever reasons, wish to discourage others from taking an interest in public affairs. Of course in politics, as elsewhere in life, it is impossible and pointless to say everything at once...all at once to just anyone. But that does not mean having to lie. All you need is tact, the proper instincts and good judgment. One surprising experience from high politics is this, I have discovered that good judgment is more useful than a postgraduate degree in political science. It is largely a matter of form, knowing how long to speak, when to begin and when to finish; how to say something politely that your opposite number may not want to hear; how to say things always that.. what is most...how to say always what is most significant at a given moment and not to