

purpose of "equaling," equalizing the difference between other states and Nebraska, to keep people buying their products in Nebraska and not going to Iowa or Kansas to do it, and they currently are doing that. It isn't a bit uncommon to spend \$1,000 to buy a vaccine and pour-ons for a cow herd in the...in the 225 cow herd. It's not at all unusual to do that. You can spend \$6 a cow just to treat for insecticides, that's very easy. If you can save 5 percent by going to Kansas on the \$1,000, they're going to make the trip, believe me. And they'll buy some other things while they're there. That's the purpose of the bill. It's, may be the only form of, of tax relief that those beleaguered ranchers and farmers are going to get this year. Everything else has been real bleak for the producers of livestock. I would urge you to support the bill on Final Reading. And with that I'll withdraw my amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Bernard-Stevens. The amendment is withdrawn. The motion is withdrawn, it is withdrawn.

CLERK: Senator Bernard-Stevens would move to return the bill.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Madam President and members of the body, just a couple points. A lot has changed, I think, at least in my mind, from last year to where we are now. This bill is not one that I necessarily have anything against, but I can't vote for it and I won't vote for it and I'll urge my colleagues not to as well. Senator Dierks is right, the \$6 million will go back into the pockets of people in certain school districts that may not have any property tax relief under the property tax proposals and they may, and they would spend the money. But on the other hand, I look at where the money is going to be taken from. And later on this week, or maybe next week, but I assume this week, we'll vote on a property tax measure that's going to severely limit what political subdivisions, particularly public schools, can do. And we have in the last few days taken dollars and made it harder to put dollars, replace in General Fund dollars by putting more dollars into the Cash Fund. We've already discussed about a year from now, or a year and a half or two years, we'll have to have a major discussion on whether to increase revenue or not in this state in order to get back the dollars that we'll be taking out of our school children's