

its...for its conclusions, but they have done a tremendous amount of work in a very, very difficult situation. The problem with any type of tax policy, which is what we're dealing with, we're trying to deal with an over-reliance on property taxes. And we have one perception out there, the public just simply wants to reduce the tax burden. And there's another group out there, and many of us are in this group, the one I'm going to mention, is that we want...we need the services that we have and we need to shift the tax burden. And so we make an economic tax decision, which we're doing today, but it probably is the biggest educational change that this Legislature has done in a long, long time. And it's too easy to separate what's good tax policy versus what is going to really be a reality to people, and I think that's part of the frustration many people have on both sides. And Senator Bohlke was correct. It's a tough vote for all. I think it's particularly tough for...well, that's not fair. It's a tough vote for all, voting yes or no on the issue, and I appreciate the body's allowing those of us that are speaking against the bill to at least have some time to do so. I do want to close on a couple of comments. And Senator Preister, I don't know, your light was the only one left on, if you want a minute or so of my time at the end, I'll give you that if you so desire. Yours is the only light left, if you... I will do so then. I'd like to close then with a couple of comments. None of us that are voting against the bill, to my knowledge, are going to work against the goals of the bill. I will try very hard to make them work. I will try very hard personally to make a tax shift policy so that it can work, and I hope that the vision that the Legislature has today is a sound one. I truly do. This is one of the times where I'm a...I'm usually known as to be the big gambler, being a risk taker, but this is one area where I guess it struck too close to home, and I just was unable to take the risk. And I think Senator Schimek said it so well. The one that's the most difficult to me is this bill, not the lid one, but this one. And it's at this particular point that we didn't have to do this bill this year. We could have waited to see what was going to happen, but we are going to do it and it is going to be in stone. My fear is still that the Legislature does not fully appreciate what the public is saying, and that is I think they're saying that the next year their push...this would be the Lincoln Chamber, the Omaha's, State Chamber I assume, others will be out there saying, now we put the lids on the local levels, the next year it'll be time for the state. And that's going to be the push next year, I