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exist, or a problem that we can do nothing about because we live within a framework of federal law. I think it would be very appropriate if this were the Congress of the United States and we were discussing the elimination of the federal estate tax. But as long as we're faced with the federal estate tax, with its rules and regulations that have been on the books many decades, it's rather useless for us to talk about the state inheritance tax. Now actually there are two different situations, the breaking point is an estate of 650,000. This handout that just came out that says it's current is actually two years behind the times. It's been two years since the federal exemption with 600,000, it's now 650,000. Nevertheless, you really have two situations. You have the larger estate which is subject to federal estate tax, and you have those smaller estates that are not subject to federal estate tax. The larger estates, of 650,000, which are subject to federal estate tax, federal law provides a state death tax credit for anything that's paid to the county on inheritance tax, or the state on estate tax. If you don't pay that, then you pay it to the federal government. So you could abolish the state inheritance and estate tax, and you wouldn't save any estate a dollar, because that deduction would be lost, and it would be paid to the federal government, and it's a substantial amount. So with large estates, no matter what we tinker with here, we're not going to save anybody any money. The only application of this bill is going to be to smaller estates, less than \$650,000. Now, first of all, in spite of what has been said on this floor, it isn't...it has no effect on the financial status of a widow, because due to the marital deduction, there is absolutely no Nebraska inheritance tax on any amount of money that goes to the surviving spouse. So whether you have a \$10,000 estate, or \$50,000, or \$100,000, or a \$500,000 estate, if there's a surviving spouse, there is no inheritance tax, and of course there is no federal estate tax. What you're talking about here is smaller estates and above the fact that the surviving spouse pays no inheritance tax whatsoever. The rate for lineal descendants, normally children, or it can be parents, is only 1 percent. So if you...if you read articles like this that it blocks the American dream, that's rather superficial and hypocritical, that applies to the federal estate tax, which is a great burden. The federal estate tax starts at 37 percent after you reach \$650,000. That's the problem, the problem is not state inheritance tax, which would