

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 1217

they have a little budget authority left in their property tax levy, they're going to raise property taxes. And so the question for us, I believe, is where...how...how do you want to spend that money? Do people want lower sales and income tax or do they want lower property taxes? The people in my district are telling me overwhelmingly they want lower property taxes. Now what we're doing here doesn't accomplish that goal. What we're doing here will actually raise property taxes, reduce sales and income taxes. That's what we're doing here today. This is going to come back again and again. Senator Schrock has been a leader on this issue. The Natural Resources Committee has been a leader on this issue. Senator Stuhr's buffer strip bill, for example, to take water quality and put it in the...in the place that people want it to be, that's in the forefront of Nebraskans' minds. But we're going to need to consider that this issue is going to come back again and again and again, and I hope we can place upon it the importance that it deserves. With that, I'd yield my time back to Senator Schrock.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schrock, about six and a half minutes.

SENATOR SCHROCK: One of the statistics that we found out when we were studying the ethanol issue, the issue of MTB contamination, of the ten surrounding states, Nebraska has 70 percent of the underground water supply. That's amazing, stop and think about that. What would the other nine surrounding states give to have just a portion of that underground water supply? It does behoove us to protect that. So I hope the natural resource districts will, I'm sorry to say this, levy higher property taxes to make sure our clean water programs continue. With that, I thank you for the time and I withdraw the motion.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk, next item.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have nothing further pending with respect to LB 1217.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Items for the record?