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subsidize an industry to the tune of \$300 million. Now, how much of that do we collect in tax? Five percent. Five percent of that. Why not go to 10 percent, or 15 percent? That could be called modest. There's nothing astronomical about paying 15 percent of the bill. I urge the body to keep a sense of proportion as we look at this. One final comment. As some of us considered maybe doubling from 5 percent to 10 percent, I got letters from persons who said this would be the end of beer sales in Nebraska. My goodness, that would be a great difficulty. I got letters from employees of saloons whose owner had told them to write me and tell me that if our thoughts passed, they would lose their jobs because there would be no more alcohol sales. So let's figure out. Let's take a can of beer, and what would happen if we were to double it? It would raise the tax on a can of beer by 2 cents. I see their point. If a can of beer goes up 2 cents, it's the end of liquor sales in Nebraska. We are out of it. We won't get any more revenue from this source, because everyone will quit. I urge us to keep a sense of proportion when we're looking at a half a cent a can, as compared to a one cent, in these two options here, that we stay with the original...I urge that we stay with the original bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Kruse. Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I hesitate to say anything, but I guess I will. Senator Landis, I'd like to commend you and your committee for work on this. I think it's about time that we do increase alcohol taxes. For some of my constituents in Red Cloud, Nebraska, it's been the most important issue this session. Am I going to vote for a tax increase on alcohol? You know, we tried prohibition back in the twenties. Probably Senator Vrtiska's the only one on this floor that remembers that. (Laughter) But I frequently go fishing in Canada. And if you want to talk about taxes on alcohol and tobacco, go north of the border. If you're going to consume or smoke, best take it with you, because it gets pretty expensive north of the border. And I'd like to see a little bit more of that here. It seems like it's out of proportion when we increase taxes on tobacco 30 cents a pack last year, and now we're doing a penny on a can of beer. Now, I would guess the