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LB 379

schools, we're going to give them more flexibility. With Senator Raikes' bill, there is some flexibility when we went up from \$1.00 to \$1.04. If we have to do more, put some more pressure, more property tax. And, Senator Schimek, a poll that was done by a radio station asked the question, if a tax increase is necessary, which would you more likely support, a state income tax increase or property tax increase? And the answer was 60 percent for an income tax increase versus a property tax of 20 percent. And I think that's the question I think we have to answer as far as that is because I see with the federal deductions we are being helped. We can raise our income tax and we are still...with the one sheet that I passed out, for a family with an income of \$34,300, with it...the family of three, at the end of it with the deductions or with the benefits under the federal income tax, they get a net increase of \$1.138. And a family with \$134,000 come up with \$3,700. And so I think it's just a...it's simply a fair way to go, is if you make the money, you pay it. And my situation, Senator Jensen, is a little different in my district. I have people moving back to Nebraska from military, and they've been all over you know, the country. There must be something here, you know, that they...they are out of the service. They are not...they can't...and maybe there's some other benefits, but they're coming back to pay this tax. And I think that we're simply not raising it any higher than it was in 1996, so I ask you to support LB 379.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Stuthman.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. I, too, also rise in strong support of Senator Hartnett's bill. Some of the comments that I get when I go back to my area and the constituents is most of them say why don't you raise the income tax? If you make money, you pay money. And I think this is very true because people that do, you know, have an income and have to pay some income tax on there, immaterial of what they have to pay, they still have a percentage of that money that they have made left. So I am strongly in favor of that. The only thing that I have a little bit concern, and I don't know exactly how many dollars that they are planning on raising with this, but I think the way the economy is at the present