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action that we are taking, not on the wealthy. Given my understanding, from looking at this whole thing now for several months in great detail, it is a choice now for me between property tax and income tax. I am adamantly opposed to increases in property tax and so would be voting for this as an income tax. And we'll have several opportunities to think about that. I gave one to the floor last week, a chance to reduce property taxes in the future, and the floor turned it down. Well, if we really want to deal with property taxes, some revenue here would help us on some of those choices that we made, and I'm not knocking that choice. We felt we had to make the cut, but the cut was going to be very expensive for somebody. The cost doesn't go away. We're dealing with costs that won't go away and I favor applying that to the income tax over applying it to property. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Kruse. Senator Stuhr, you are the next speaker.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. I will be supporting this bill and agree with much of what has been stated already this afternoon. I think it does depend a great deal, as Senator Vrtiska said I believe, whose ox is being gored in the fact coming from a rural area property is needed to make our income, and the property taxes continually have to be paid whether we have or produce that income or not. I was here in '96, when we made those cuts, and it's amazing. As I talk to constituents today, I have to remind them that back in '96 we did make those cuts, and sometimes they are not always in tune with what we are doing here in the Legislature, although many of them do and, according to the number of letters and e-mails, are certainly watching what we are doing. But I believe that just moving this bill on will give us an additional piece of the puzzle. It doesn't mean that we have to go to the full extent that is offered in the bill, but it does give us an option and I think that's important as we are considering the overall budget at this time. Also, I just...I do think that it is a choice somewhat of income and property. If you look at our neighboring states, Nebraska, we have always been very high in the property tax area. I know over the weekend one of my constituents says it seems like you're going backwards; you've