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sales or use tax.

SENATOR BOURNE: It...it's...yes, that's accurate. It is so broadly written that any revenue-generating event or function would be exempt from sales and use tax the way the law...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And, by the same token, anything they purchase would be...for use in these activities would be exempt from the sales or use tax?

SENATOR BOURNE: Correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Because it says, "or other consumption in this state of purchases." Now, I...that's all I will ask you at this point, thank you, Senator Bourne, because there may be people who are going to add to the discussion some things that I don't understand about the taxing system. I have not been one who favored complete tax exemption for religions, religious activities, preachers, manses, or whatever they call the preacher's house. Some religions own huge amounts of real estate. This bill, this amendment of mine does not relate to that, but they are freeloaders and they take a free ride. Citizens pay wheel taxes. On preacher's cars, on church vans, and church fleets of cars, which indicate that they have considerable wealth, don't pay those taxes. When the snowplows come through, they don't come to one side of the church and stop and then pick up on the other edge of the church and continue. They plow the street and the church gets the benefit of that service paid for by everybody else. When street lights are placed, they don't...if they place them at intervals, so many feet, yards, meters apart, there is no skipping to take into account that here are church and religious activities which pay no taxes. So they get the benefits of that service also. The fire, the police and every public service that others have to pay for, the churches sponge and freeload in order to not pay taxes. The U.S. Constitution, and the Nebraska Constitution more or less tailgates, says that Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of any religion or interfering with the free exercise thereof, words to that effect. The U.S. Supreme Court has interpreted that language to apply not just to Congress but to the state, the county, or any public entity that