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position that we've been elected to. So I'll listen to the other comments, but I think that there is a possibility, whatever that might be, of some combination of a sales tax, perhaps even the issue that Senator Beutler originally started out with, a surcharge on electricity. But whatever that issue might be, I think there is an opportunity here that we should certainly endeavor to come up with a compromise; that certainly any time you raise taxes, and I've always been on the other side of that issue, but when a bill is owing, I think it needs to be paid. And if we are to negotiate, certainly if you have the dollars to do that with, your negotiations will go further. With that, those are my comments. I'll return the rest of my time back to the Chair. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Johnson, followed by Senator Beutler.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. President, members of the body, I guess I shouldn't say ditto since that sometimes is associated with people on talk radio, but this is actually what I had punched my light to do as well. I think, as I observe this, and obviously as somewhat of a rookie, there isn't any consensus in this body to solve the problem. The only consensus is, is that there is a problem and the likelihood of our being able to escape without paying the bill that's due is virtually nil. I would hope that discussions could still take place. And, Senator Beutler, if I could, I'd like to have you expound a little bit on the possibility. Let's say that if this was enacted, the money was generated and then a bolt of lightning strikes and this goes away, what would we do the funds that...do with the funds that we have collected for this judgment? That would be, I guess, my main question. But as I expressed yesterday, I think you can make a pretty good philosophical case that this is a fine against all of us that vote in Nebraska. Perhaps we chose the wrong people at certain times and there are a couple of offices involved in this. I don't mean to be picking on any particular one. But if that's the case, I think that the fine goes to all of us and that maybe the sales tax, at least in my opinion, fines the voters, and we were the voters. And for those of you that didn't vote, maybe you should be fined twice because maybe you could have made the difference. So I'll yield the rest of