

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

April 1, 2004      LB 1090

programming, you have to go in there and certainly they're expenses that they must incur. But if we think the slightest of changes with county treasurer programming shouldn't be what they are, but they exist; or we think the slightest changes on the state income tax returns shouldn't be what they are, they're a lot higher; and certainly I would speculate have kept us away from some issues, have kept us away from some changes that we wanted to implement that we could argue in the long term might be the best outcome. But I hope that we'll continue to look at the results or the outcomes or the effects of what we do here. I sense that there's an income tax increase...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ...with legs, and I must say that that concerns me a great deal because I believe that an increase in the income tax will do more to harm our economy than probably any other tax in here. And I know I'll be accused of defending those of wealth, but when we have 2,600 fewer tax filers last year than the year prior, we don't know how many for this year, that concerns me. Now we've had a growing population and when we have almost half of those 2,600 who fell out of the income tax bracket of \$200,000 or more, they...two things could have happened. They could have left the state or they could be making...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR SMITH: ...less money, both of which I think is harmful to our state, harmful to our tax base, and ultimately...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: ...harmful to those who use tax dollars in Nebraska. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Stuhr, followed by Senator Chambers and others. Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I have appreciated the discussion that took place