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from that. The thickness of it probably scared most people away. But that was in 1988. It was an academic study rather than a commission-type study--very valuable, I think, as far as information is concerned, but didn't have a large effect on our tax policy. Then in 1991, we had what we called the 3-R Committee. That was appointed by then-Governor Ben Nelson. And they could not agree on very many things, so not too much happened to that. Since the last tax study...or, since the Syracuse Study in 1988, we weren't dealing with the current level of information technology capabilities that we have today, and the significant tax issues that followed the Internet boom of the nineties. In 1991, we didn't have to deal with lost revenue caused by the inability to tax Internet retail. Our economy is now a global one, and we need to adjust our tax policy to that. Contributing factors to what makes a tax commission successful are, how many of the recommendations become policy? To what extent did the public have an opportunity to engage in the debate? And I think a commission-type structure has a higher chance of success when synthesizing both academic study and political stakeholdership. This bill brings together the executive and legislative branches of government, as well as members from the public and private sector, to discuss and study tax structure in Nebraska. And I believe that these things alone, which were not part of any previous tax study, will increase the chances of success greatly. If each person in this room were to write a tax policy, they would all be different. We won't all agree with the recommendations of the commission. But I'm willing to take that chance, because I believe that when reasonable and knowledgeable people meet around a table and engage in open and frank discussion, the resulting recommendations would most assuredly be an improvement. I am confident that this commission can rise above tax politics and recommend what is truly the best policy for our state. In the past six months, I have read and heard a great deal about increased interest from other states regarding tax policy. With term limits now in effect for Nebraska's legislators, timing is critical; 75 percent of our current senators will not face the voters again. Twenty of us will not return in January of '07, and the rest of the 75 percent will be out in January '09. It is my hope that this review commission will provide us with