

talked to some people who are supporting this bill who said, under no circumstances would they support a reimposition of the sales tax on food. The reason I had some concerns was because Senator Byars, for some reason unknown to me, had offered a bill to impose a tax on food. That bill was supported in part by teachers. And my feeling was that the teachers, who often complain about children not being able to concentrate on their studies because they come to school hungry, were willing to take additional food out of their mouth in order to get money from their impoverished parents, if they're in that situation, to put more fillet mignon on the tables of teachers. And I'm opposed to that. Just because they teach doesn't put them in a special category, in my opinion, where we should tax the food that people eat to give them some more money. And, by the way, I have a brother who is a teacher and has been a teacher for years. But the mere fact that my brother is a teacher does not blind me to what I consider to be a greater good for the greater number. And, in my opinion, when you tax those products that a person and that person's family will consume, it is not a noble thing we are doing by any stretch of the imagination. I can remember, not from having been there, but from things that I've read and been told are true, that in Boston Harbor some colonists had a large experiment to determine whether by putting tea in salt water you could brew a drinkable cup of tea. They did put the tea in the water, but I'm not told as to the outcome of the experiment. They did that because England was placing a tax on tea. The issue was not how much revenue would be raised, but whether or not England was going to vindicate its power to tax the colonies, even though the colonists had no representation in Parliament, which was going to impose the tax. In this body the poor have no representation. Jesus said, the poor you have with you always. But we don't get the part from the Dead Sea Scrolls, where he added, except in the Nebraska Legislature, you will bar the poor as much as possible, you will bar mention of them as much as possible, you will bar consideration of their interests as much as possible. This Legislature may not have the poor with them always, but they'll have somebody, as long as I'm here, who will talk about the interests of the poor which ought to be addressed. Abraham Lincoln, a man whom I criticize for other reasons, said, God must have really loved the poor person because he created so many of them. That was one of his less intelligent statements because it applies to roaches, ants, bedbugs, chinchis, and all those things that we don't like. But he had a profounder point that he was trying to make. And considering the actual point