

as a matter of fact, in 541 without 330, increasing the expenditures of state government simply has a factor of the increased money coming in reflective of primarily the sales and income tax revenues. We cannot address growth in programs that are beyond the ability of Nebraskans to support by simply spending more money. That has an end to it at some point in time that is probably more tragic than being prudent in our investments at this point in time. I think we all, saw a few weeks ago, an analysis of how much more rapidly the cost of government in Nebraska were growing and that's not just state government, but all levels of government, were growing, than what the income of Nebraskans, the ability to support government has over the last number of years. It is a collision course with a reality. We can either do a skirmish here on 330...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: ...or we can have a major battle in some year in the future. It simply cannot continue to grow faster than what the ability of our constituents to support without increasing additional taxes which, whether it's only one dollar, that one dollar is a transfer from the pocket of some Nebraskan, some Nebraskan who will not be able to perhaps purchase something, perhaps invest to create a better economy to develop a firmer tax base to provide for the out year. We simply cannot logically continue in the basis we have. I love to spend money and I wouldn't be in agriculture if I didn't. The smell of green paint or red paint or orange paint has an immense attraction, but you have to learn to pace yourself and live within your means and make the adjustments and identify priorities. I happen to think that care of those that cannot logically take care of themselves should be one of the priorities of government.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Hohenstein. Senator Schellpeper, on the Wesely amendment.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I'd like to ask Senator Wesely a question if I could.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Wesely, would you respond.