

Appropriations Committee with Scott Moore and Roger Wehrbein, who else is on there, LaVon Crosby and Dan Lynch, because you find out where the money goes. I'll tell you it's easy to get up here after the budget bill comes up and then cut it to pieces and add more to it. But it's tough. Senator Warner is right, we're probably going to have a tax increase next year, but I probably am not going to vote for it. And when I get out and talk to my people during this election I'm going to tell them, folks, you got a 1 cent sales tax right in your face, whether you like it or not, and I'm going to tell them I probably won't support it. But what fuels the fire? What brings the money into the coffers? It's a good tax system. And what are we going to do? We're going to raise it. What's Lincoln's tax? Lincoln's now is six-and-a-half cents. Well, we'll probably end up giving them, I don't know what they want, another cent, so that makes seven-and-a-half, and then next year, like Senator Warner says, and he's right, and we'll probably put it on sales tax, that will be eight-and-a-half percent. And Omaha will be...it's six-and-a-half now, it will be seven-and-a-half. And I'm sure that...I don't know if Brad will ever get that amendment up and it may be eight percent by the time we get finished. But let me read you something. What are the sales taxes around the...the surrounding states? Ours is 5 percent. Colorado's is 3 percent. Iowa's is 5 percent. Kansas is 4.9 percent. Wyoming is 4 percent; South Dakota, 4 percent; Missouri, 4.2 percent. And you might say, well, that isn't going to make any difference. My concern is what happens after next year, because we're going to...we don't know what's going to happen coming down from Washington on this health care program. It could really put us in a bind. And I'm only going to mention this once, but we dug our hole...we started digging our hole last year. Eleven people voted against the trailer bill. I was one of them, you know it, and I got criticized for it, but we were 63 million in the hole last year coming into two years down the pike. Like Senator Moore says, now we're at...we could be up to 120-some million, and that's over a 1 percent increase in sales tax. And like Senator Warner said, every state program is good. Well, I don't know, I imagine they are, but I'm sure that if you brought someone in from three or four great corporations in the country I bet they could probably trim us down some. But we don't want to do that. We want to continue to get fatter, and we continue to get fatter. But this is still a priority of mine. And I will not vote for the judges...