

the list.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Crosby and, my goodness sakes, I tell you, this is wonderful. This is something that I have been looking for for a long time. You know, everybody in this body and everybody that knows me know that I have always, I have always, always opposed the local option sales tax simply because it means that me, coming from a small county and a small town, have to go out of town to buy the things that I need, and I leave the money there and they fix the streets and their sewers and all the things that need to be fixed, and I don't have...but they don't come and spend any money in my town because I don't have anything really that much to sell. So this kind of a thing that Senator Wickersham has brought forth is ideal. It makes us all put money in the big pot, and we all take out our share, and in looking at the example he has given, the majority of people gain. It gives us some property tax relief that we are all looking for. It looks to me like it is almost too good to be true, and I don't suppose it is going to go anywhere, but it is something that I think that people ought to start looking at in order to make equity among the communities and the various people who are stressed with trying to figure out how to take care of their expenses in their communities. And, you know, looking at this, it just looks like that, I noticed that Omaha would be a loser, and I guess that is unfortunate. I don't know how you deal with that particular issue, but the overall structure of it is something that I think needs to be talked about, needs to be looked at more, more and more as we talk about how we raise money for the various activities that are on the communities, and, in fact, are more fair to those communities who are forced to go outside of their own area to spend their money, and not being able to, in fact, get anything in return. I have made the example on many occasions, and people don't particularly care, except that I do, I went to a neighboring county to buy a, because we don't have any implement dealers in my county, to buy an expensive piece of farm equipment when I was farming, and I left a nice chunk of tax dollars there for them to spend, to use as they could, but it is not their fault they can't come over to my county and my community, in any of my communities, my town and buy those kind of high-priced items because we don't have any to sell. But it still doesn't mean that we don't go out and spend money in these communities, in these areas that surround us and, in fact, help to provide their infrastructure that certainly is important to them, but looking at this chart that Senator Wickersham handed