

SENATOR MOORE: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...for teaching me a lesson and reminding me the nature of this Legislature, something I should not have forgotten. But I did, I paid the price, so now I am back in the game, and I assure you that despite the way things went with the welfare bill this morning, I am in this one for the duration. It is on a different basis, different principles are at play, and I intend to oppose this tax bill, this amendment, and the other tax bills in every way that I can under the rules.

SENATOR MOORE: Thank you, Senator Chambers. The next speaker is Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. Well, Senator Chambers, you aren't the only one that was surprised last Friday. I think there were a number of people who you could have picked their jaws up off the floor. No one thought that initiative had the kind of support that it did, and I think some of us failed our colleagues by not discussing the issue a little bit more fully, because I think some of them did not realize or understand all the implications of their vote, certainly wasn't tied to anything, and I don't think it should be tied to anything now. But I do think that some folks voted last Friday without fully considering or realizing implications of what they were voting for, both in terms of tax policy and other considerations that I hope we will be able to raise this evening. And that's the reason I hope that the body will support your motion for reconsideration. I do not think we had a full discussion of this initiative last Friday. I think some of us failed the body in making sure that that did not happen or at least allowing it not to happen. Senator Chambers has started to raise the issue of state tax policy and, of course, that is a very important issue to me, and I agree with what he said, that we have no need to allow one municipality in the State of Nebraska to utilize a portion of the state tax base. We have made mistakes in the past. I think we ought to learn from them. Senator Chambers, I think twice this year, has said that he has made mistakes and is trying to learn from them. I think we can clearly learn from our past examples of giving away a portion of the state tax base, and how much it eventually costs us. But the other aspect of this initiative that is a little bit troubling to me is that it is brought to this Legislature in a way that I think calls upon us to really act like a city council. We are asked not only to pass on state tax