

talking about instituting a local option sales tax and opposed it and I opposed it simply for the reason that we've been talking about and that is that you're taking away from this tax base of the people of the State of Nebraska. The more money that you put into a local area, the less money that you can distribute out for the purposes that are needs as Senator Schimek has said for the roads and for other needs that the state has. And of course when we take that money away and give it to a local area, then there is no option left for, or doesn't seem to be for much of a demand or at least there is a demand against raising the entire state tax so we can take care of all those special needs out there that need to be done. And I'm one that truly believes that come another year, if the economic climate in this state doesn't change from what it is right now, there's going to be a need to do one of two things. One thing is to either reduce spending by a tremendous amount of money and that means a reduction of a lot of services that people demand and people need and people want or to raise more money to provide those services. Now I think it boils down to those two issues. I came in the Legislature with the idea that we probably should try to cut some of the spending and reduce some of the money that is extracted, but I recognize that that's an easier thing, it makes good rhetoric but it doesn't sell very well because whenever you do those things it's always somebody's program that is being reduced and that somebody is going to be there to talk to you about it. So it leaves with about the only alternative left and that is if we don't...if we decide not to reduce spending, then we have to raise some more money and when we have to raise some more money we have to look at the options that are left and that's either sales or income tax because there is nobody that I can think of on this floor that would come to me and say that property taxes are too low and we can put more weight on the property in this state. When you look at the young businessman, the young farmer, the young person out there that is trying to make it and look at what his property taxes are and the way they're going up, you can understand why there is...we're on the verge of a tax revolt in this state because people are getting to the point where they just don't think they can afford to pay any more on their land and on their business and those kinds of...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...taxes. So it really comes down to the issue that has been talked about before and I'll continue to