

SE Nebraska Legislator Comments on Governor's Tax Proposal

(KTNC) - The Nebraska Legislature has shelved Governor Dave Heineman's proposal to replace the state's income and corporate tax with a sales tax, after the proposal ran into opposition from a host of interest groups. Legislation has been proposed to create a commission to study the state's tax code.

First District State Senator Dan Watermeier commented on the matter during a stop in Falls City Saturday. He says it's fair to look at reducing or eliminating taxes on Social Security and military pensions. But he says it's important to look beyond numbers. (play audio :48)

Watermeier calls the Governor's budget proposal "reasonable." (play audio :28)

One committee Watermeier serves on is the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee. Some of the bills before that committee are ones that would make seat belt violations a primary offense and require all passengers to use seat belts. Another bill would make texting while driving a primary offense. And another would require drivers 80 years old and older to pass a cognitive test to be issued a drivers' license.

Watermeier has heard some opposition to that bill, but he says he's also heard a lot of support for that proposal from senior citizens. (play audio :30)

Watermeier spoke with constituents during a series of open houses Saturday. Meetings were held in Nebraska City, Auburn, Falls City, and Humboldt.