

(Begin Belt 1A)

March 26, 1974

PRESIDENT: Will the Legislature please come to order and indicate your presence. Please indicate your presence. Please indicate your presence. Please indicate your presence.

CLERK: A very slim quorum is present, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: We have re-convened. We were on LB1053, weren't we Mister Clerk?

CLERK: Yes, except I believe we had inserted everything in the Journal and laid the bill over. That was my understanding.

PRESIDENT: Wasn't there another amendment or not? Senator Carpenter.

CLERK: Okay, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: There's another amendment. Senator Carpenter.

CLERK: Mr. President, we now have an amendment that Senator Carpenter this morning requested be inserted in the Journal which would increase the funds for the Department of Environmental Control.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: I'd like to have Senator Kremer pay particular attention to this amendment because I think he's interested in it. This amendment requires an expenditure of \$25,000. The federal government now has made available to all states and this state a number of millions of dollars in order to make refunds to sewer plants who constructed their facilities prior to the time the federal government made appropriations and made or paid part of it. This money is now being sent back into the state and this will mean to the extent that the funds will exist, that those who are in that position will get about 50%, about 25% of the 50% they would have gotten had they been able to obtain the federal matching it at that time which was not in existence. After that time, the federal passed a law which said that this thing could be retroactive to the point that those who didn't receive in the first place could recover. Now this means, I don't know how many millions of dollars at stake, but at least 2 or 3 which every identity of local government. Who built their plant prior to participation time...can now recover 25% of the 50% which they could have got had they waited. Now it's my judgment this \$25,000 is necessary in order to pursue the matter which I have outlined in order to be able to expedite and recover for the various municipalities of government that which is theirs now. In Omaha and in Lincoln, I would presume it runs into a substantial sum of money. In a lot of areas, for example, runs down \$10 or \$15 thousand dollars which you can recover now if you're in that position. If you've got matching funds after the date in which they originally offered, of course, you'll now be entitled to a refund. But every municipal county was requested over a period of time to make application through Mr. Higgins in that particular area which most of them did and the money now is forthcoming. I think this is a nominal amount which would be money well spent to make sure that the department has enough money to do what I presume everybody wants it to do. Now this is a nominal amount in the area we generally talk about. If it's too much, of course, it'll be left there, be reappropriated at the end