

January 14, 1976

PRESIDENT: Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: That's very acceptable, both Senator Barnett and the amendment of Senator Lewis.

PRESIDENT: Then do you care to close, Senator Lewis?

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I think the issue is clear. I'd ask for the adoption of my motion.

PRESIDENT: The question is the adoption of Senator Frank Lewis' amendment to Senator Cope's bill. Record your vote. Have you voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays.

PRESIDENT: The amendment carries. Senator Fitzgerald

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Mr. President, fellow members. I'd like to ask some questions of Senator Cope. Ron, you've got right here in your amendments "any sleeping room furnished at a hotel". Now are you going to put a rate on this, or is this any hotel room? I'm talking about the City of Omaha.

SENATOR COPE: Would you give me the section.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Right on the front page of your amendments, line 9, 10, 11 and 12, Section 2.

SENATOR COPE: Section 9, line 9, 10, 11 and 12

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Section 2.

SENATOR COPE: Yes, any hotel room, sleeping room, etc. Correct.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Alright. I stand up here today to oppose this bill for the simple reason that I think this bill here ... we have hotels there in Omaha that will not derive anything from this tax. They will not get anything. This bill here is for the big hotels in Omaha which will get the tourists, will get the conventions. These other people will just be collecting agencies for these other hotels. Now the Hilton, they will derive all the benefit of this bill, & your hotels and motels out on 72nd Street.... I don't think it's fair to these other people that have these little, medium class hotels that they'll be collecting this. They derive no profit, no nothing from this. I asked, when I was at a meeting the other day, that they would put a limit on a hotel room at right around \$14 to \$16 a room, that these people would pay the tax. I oppose the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cavanaugh.