

to attend a performance there. I quite frankly think this is a very small thing that we can do for Joslyn, for this particular art exhibit that is something that our children and our children's children will value, and I urge that you do not indefinitely postpone LB 705.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Anyone else care to speak to the indefinite postponement? Senator Bernard-Stevens, Senator Labeledz and Senator Chambers. Senator David, please.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I hadn't intended to say anything on 705 but as I've been listening to debate a couple of thoughts occurred to me which explains the dilemma I have on the bill such as this. I certainly favor support of the humanities, support of the arts. I have done so, last year with Senator Morehead. I pushed an appropriation amendment that would add \$200,000 to the humanities programs and what have you and I understand that the value of what a collection such as Senator Lindsay is referring to would be to the people of the State of Nebraska. I also have a couple of concerns, however, and I guess, Senator Lindsay, if you want to take some of my time later to respond or you want to respond later on your own time, that would be fine. I guess a couple of my concerns are I wonder why we are attacking this on the sales side, why not just come right up front with a general appropriation, you know, we're going to appropriate. Now that's maybe not an appropriate thing to do, but I suspect that maybe that is the area that we should be right up front and do. The other thing is more philosophical in regard to our tax situation. One thing that I gained upon going throughout the state and talking about the Syracuse Tax Study and the railroad lawsuit and the property tax issue was that the State of Nebraska has consistently, over the years, exempted over here, exempted over there, exempted all around and we've made so many exemptions on sales, property and what have you that the state of the tax structure in our particular state is in a very chaotic mess and what we have here is just another very small, granted, very small, but another little crack, another little chink and at some point the Legislature has to make up its mind, what are we doing in regards to exemptions in overall tax policy, you know? And I would think that this is a question that we all have to look at. Maybe there is a way simply to go around instead of giving a tax exemption to go a straight appropriation, say we the state would like to help appropriate. I don't know if that is feasible under the laws of the state,