

broadening it, using that sales tax base for one year, I had deep, deep concerns of how that would jeopardize the body a year from now. And I think...I just think, my own opinion is that what we did with the cigarette tax and though I, myself, had planned not to deal with that money this year, I think it leaves this body with many more options next year than had we passed LB 1087 in its present form. So I think some of the people that are questioning the judgment on LB 961 last night are the very people who may benefit the most and I guess I think this body, by what it did last night though, it was not the prettiest thing I've ever seen in any way, shape or form, I'll tell you that, but actually I think after last night, going to bed and woke up this morning, the more I think of it, the more I like it and I think we're probably better off with what we did than had we done what we thought about doing in 1087 and I think this Legislature will have many more options next year in the way of in the future will concentrate more on some 309 money, for one, and, two, this body will truly have the freedom to make whatever decision it wants to make next year on the sales tax, if need be, either to balance the budget or for property tax relief without any pressure from certainly the City of Lincoln had we passed this bill. They said we want ours too, or obviously though I was going out on a limb to trust the City of Omaha. The fact is, they certainly could have come back last year and next year making that very difficult. So I actually think this body is in better shape with what it did than had we passed LB 1087 in its present form and, for that reason, I am going to gladly support the motion to strike that provision from this bill.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I didn't participate in the discussion last night because I knew that the agreement that had been arrived at was going to go and I want to say, as Senator Moore said, after a night has passed, so it's clear that I know what I'm saying, I'm in full possession of my senses, I still applaud those who did the work in putting that agreement together. Not only did it resolve issues that were facing various sectors and interests of the state, it made it possible for the Legislature to move forward and get those things done which are often jammed up at the end of the session and a way has to be found to break the logjam. That was done. In politics, there is a reality and there is a fantasy aspect. The fantasy aspect is that we can stand here