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February 26, 2002 LB 600

notice from Retirement Systems Committee. (Legislative Journal pages 741-746.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next motion I have to the committee amendments is by Senator Landis. (FA288, Legislative Journal page 2257, First Session, 2001.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Landis, you're recognized to open on FA288 to the committee amendments to LB 600.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this is a quarter percent sales tax increase. It would fund LB 600. LB 600, with just the committee amendments out of the Revenue Committee, costs about \$25 million in state aid. If you're going to do that you need the revenue to do it. It seems to me that this is a way of pointing out the fact that this will ultimately have impacts and ripple effects into other tax bases, and that's the reason that it's there. I will say this, however; that one of the reasons that this amount is low is because at a straight 8 percent, which was in the bill as it was reported out, what we discovered was that, even though it will still cost us about \$25 million, that's in addition to other impacts, which means that values will go up in western Nebraska, southeast Nebraska, and northeast Nebraska under LB 600, written in this form. Now there are some places where it goes down significantly, and that's in east and south-central Nebraska, particularly on irrigated land. Range goes down and it shifts from range to irrigated land, essentially, as far as the movement in this area. Frankly, I don't want the quarter percent because I don't want this system. And so by dramatizing what I think the actual cost is at this point, and by reminding us that this now, in this form, will not help all farmers, it places some farmers with greater values than what they have now, I would ask to withdraw the amendment.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN PRESIDING

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: It's withdrawn. (Visitors introduced.) While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting