

April 4, 1979

LB 285

PRESIDENT: The Chair would prefer that we just discuss all of them and then divide the question on the voting.

SENATOR KEYES: Okay, then we will discuss all of them.

PRESIDENT: Otherwise it is going to be impossible to do. So let us just discuss all of them. When you are speaking you can delineate which ones you are discussing.

SENATOR KEYES: Do you want me to go ahead and discuss them now and Senator Simon can sit down and discuss...?

PRESIDENT: No, Senator Simon has the floor.

SENATOR SIMON: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise to oppose Keyes amendments #1, 2, 3, 4 and 7. Number 5 I understand, Senator Keyes has withdrawn. Number 6 I think is a good amendment. I am kind of surprised Senator Keyes has introduced it. I don't know why exactly. Number 6 would allow electricity and its fuel to be exempted. Senator Schmit made some good arguments why they should be because of the increasing costs and I would support amendment #6. Senator Keyes, I don't even think that some of the things that you want to do in this or I question whether they are constitutional. For example, #6, amendment #6, excuse me. It's the wrong one. Amendment #3 inserts new language that talks about combined receipts which would include such things as federal funds, gifts, endowments. Now I don't think that you can tell me if I want to donate \$50,000 to build a swimming pool, say for the City of Valley, Nebraska, you can't tell me that I can't do that and it defeats the whole purpose of endowment. You are not going to have any endowments. You are not going to have any gifts with this type of amendment passing. What you are doing, now it is not a question, Senator Keyes. It is a statement. I strongly oppose that. If you have individuals that want to make contributions either through a will or through just an outright gift, want to make an improvement to their school, to their city, to their county, to their natural resources district, and it provides for some things which they may not have and yes, granted maybe a swimming pool wouldn't have to be a necessity. It is not a necessity for the City of Valley or maybe a swimming pool is not a necessity for maybe the school of Elkhorn but the point is, that if an individual wants to make that contribution and is not increasing the taxes, there is really no reason that