

April 5, 1979

LB 365

SENATOR CARSTEN: Yes, but does not interfere with the election process.

SENATOR DWORAK: Thank you, Senator Carsten. I do not wish to speak on the DeCamp amendment. I want to speak on the bill when we are ready.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Labedz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am in support definitely with Senator John DeCamp's amendment to extend that to 1983. I think the city has proven to me, and you all know me as a very very strong conservatist. I think that the sales tax is the proper way to do it but the city hasn't been given the opportunity in the short time to show that they have reduced their spending. They have proven to me that they have had a good start in it, but to put it up to a vote of the people in 1980 I don't think is enough time. I think 1983 is just exactly what they will need, and as far as talk of the polls that you have seen, I agree polls don't influence me too much. I have talked to the people in my district and have just overwhelmingly have supported the half percent increase and are supporting the extension. I am sure that if it did come up in 1980 they would go on ahead and increase it or extend this city sales tax further but I think in 1983 they may have a better chance of saying, well, now the city has reduced their spending. It is time now to just do away or do not extend the city sales tax after 1983. There is a possible chance we will do that if the city can prove that they have cut down spending. Like I say they have had a short time to do it and I believe and the information you received today from Steve Rosenblatt says they have cut down spending and they will continue to do so. I urge every member of this Legislature to think twice before they reject Senator DeCamp's amendment. I am confident the people in 1983 will either extend it or reject it but it has given them more time to see whether the City of Omaha is honest, that they will cut down spending and try to stay within their limits. The other day I voted for Senator Murphy's bill which would, I mean amendment that amended the LB 285 to put the sales tax into the lid bill. This will also curtail their spending and I am sure that by 1983 the people in my district and the City of Omaha will decide for themselves whether it should be extended any further. In 1980 it is too close for them to decide whether they have done their job of cutting down spending. Thank you.