

April 5, 1979

LB 365

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The bill first.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Well, a number of people. Bernice asked me. Some people from Omaha asked me. Yes. You didn't ask me though, did you?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator DeCamp. No, and Senator DeCamp and I went through so much last year that I am not going to do all that again but I am going to show you all a demonstration of what is being done to you here today. I often have told you that the magician attracts your attention with the left hand and then does the trick with your right hand.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers, I assume we are still talking about the DeCamp amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, this is on what the amendment is attempting to do by the manipulation of the dates. See this yellow pen. I am putting it in this folder. See this green pen, Senator DeCamp. I am putting that in the folder. Now I shake it up. I have changed the green pen into a yellow pen and I have changed the yellow pen into a green pen. Now you can determine whether anything of substance is being done and you can attempt to determine precisely what is being done but I think on a great portion of the debate on this bill I am going to see what the outstate Senators say and I am going to see what the Omaha Senators say because we know there are a lot of intermixed issues but the one point I want to make crystal clear in case I can discipline myself to the point where I won't get deeply involved in the debate. I am opposed to the sales tax. I am opposed to its extension. I am especially opposed because of what it does to the cost of food for poor people, the unwillingness of the state to deal with that issue at all, but relative to the narrowing of the state's tax base which has been mentioned so many times, I am definitely opposed to that, and since everybody is in the mood of talking about how much money is available to be spent and indicating to me, although I don't understand it as they say it, there is a certain pool of money available. Out of this must come what the state is going to get, the county, the cities and any other municipality, the school districts and all these other taxing bodies and the source of that pool of money is the same overall group of citizens throughout the state. Now I don't know if what they said is true or not but if what they say is true, it becomes obvious that whatever is taken out by one is going to leave that much less for the other. The time