

I think this bill ought not to be passed. It is going to the question again of the type of representation which exists in Omaha. Those sitting on the city council now do not come from all parts of the city. They do not represent the interests of all parts of the city. You can see the city council rally their forces to come down here and say they support a bill like this. You can see them rally their forces to say they are opposed to a proper method of electing city council members, but you cannot see them rally their forces to ensure that the type of housing they agreed with the federal government would come into Omaha will come into Omaha and do you know why I link these issues? Because taxation and representation are issues always linked in this country. Those who are taxed should have something to say in the taxing process, the amount of the taxation and I think last year there are some Senators who have told me that they listened to what some of us who were opposed to the tax said but they would take Omaha at their word that one time but they did not want to be tricked again and they will not support this bill but Senator Keyes over there has confused me. He said he was a fool the first time, that he will not be made a fool the second time, yet he is going to support this bill, and, Senator Keyes, that makes you a fool the second time. So I want you to amend that position and either say that you agree to be a fool twice or that you are not going to support the bill but you can't have both of them. If you support the bill, by your definition, you are a fool. Now I don't like to see my friends be that way so maybe you can take a moment to correct what you said because I don't think you meant that. For once, and I hope it will happen on other occasions, I can agree with Senator Lamb and I never thought I would hear the words of a conservative fall with such sweetness on my ears but, Senator Lamb, what you said, to me was like manna from heaven.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise to support the amended bill. LB 365 is a bill that will allow the City of Omaha to levy a half cent city sales tax or continue to levy this tax and I think it is needed. As many of you know, I have opposed and have been less than enthusiastic about sales tax or the additional half cent city sales tax in particular but this situation is one that is serious. It is not one that is frivolous or unimportant to the people who live in the City of Omaha. It is an absolute necessity. We have, contrary to what some people have said on the floor, we have a fiscal problem in the City of Omaha. Without the continuation of that half cent city sales