

April 24, 1979

LB 120

SPEAKER MARVEL: The amendments are adopted. Now Senator DeCamp, what do you wish to do with the bill?

CLERK: I have other motions.

SPEAKER MARVEL: I'm sorry.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Fowler moves to indefinitely postpone LB 120.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Chair recognizes Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Yes, everyone wants to call the question. I would like to make a few points if I could. The main function of the litter tax bill, as I have seen it in this Legislature and has been brought in, outside of providing employment to numerous lobbyists, the main function of the bill is to be used to defeat a bottle bill. Well this year no bottle bill was introduced in the Legislature but out of force of habit the industry brings in the litter bill. Next year I do not plan to bring in a bottle bill and I don't think that anyone else that I know of plans to do it. I don't think really that there is any utility to this bill in this two year session. Now this bill has been around for a long time and even though Senator DeCamp has some modifications, I would still think that the industry would be able to provide answers to some simple questions such as those that Senator Johnson was raising, so Senator Dworak was raising that they would want at least to provide us a little information, or at least believe that this Legislature would want a little information before we adopt this. I guess some of the questions that are unanswered and Senator DeCamp says the answers are just around the corner and I think that they have had plenty of time to get this information, one of the questions that isn't answered is how much revenue will this bill bring in, that is not known. Another question is, exactly what industries, what products, at least what stage does it apply? Senator Johnson asked that question and Senator DeCamp could not answer it whether it was manufacturing, manufacturing and wholesaling in Nebraska, wholesaling in Nebraska but not manufacturing whatever. Another question that has not been answered is how much will it cost the state in money to implement the bill? This bill must have an A bill in order to set up the mechanisms in order to start collecting the tax. Where is the A bill? How much will that cost? Supposedly the answer is just around the corner. Another question and one that probably could not be answered is how much will it cost industry to set up the books to keep track of these products in whatever categories they are, at the manufacturing and wholesale level, keep track of those products that are manufactured in Nebraska and wholesaled in Nebraska versus those products that are manufactured in Nebraska and wholesaled elsewhere or