

May 3, 1979

LB 285

now, Senator Keyes. You may proceed.

SENATOR KEYES: I think we still have one gentleman on the floor...let's really see if we mean something. We have got an audience here of grown adults and they are going to see how the legislative body of this state operates, and if it is going to operate in this confusion, there is one bill that we passed that we ought to bring back and that is our raise for us.

PRESIDENT: Let's stick with the subject, Senator Keyes. Okay, go ahead.

SENATOR KEYES: Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, fellow Senators, we have a lid bill and it came about because of something that happened in Gosper County some four years ago when they revalued the property and brought them...didn't cut the mill levy and the people in Gosper County were required to pay as much as two and three times the amount of taxes they paid before. So it became the privilege of some of us to introduce a bill through the Revenue Committee that would put a lid on. We put that bill through. We tried the next year and put another bill through that didn't quite meet the needs, and then in the special session of the Legislature, we put in a bill and it passed. After much discussion and thorough discussion and good discussion, it passed and it went out across the State of Nebraska, became effective ninety days after the session was over with. It was not in law enough last year to affect this year's budget but it will be next year. Now Ray Johnson said that the bill could not be implemented but I can tell you this that the Governor of the state, the Lieutenant Governor, and Luedtke and I and Senator Dworak agreed that that bill could be enforced. We campaigned for it and then we come along, because Ray Johnson said that the bill cannot be implemented, we had through the Revenue Committee, they had a bill drafted, amendments to the bill was drafted which I think are very poor amendments and then that amendments were brought on the floor of the Legislature and it looks like a sieve. There is no limit to the top spending. It is all open. The first bill was a limit on property taxes so the property taxes could not go up over 7%. This bill has completely gotten out of the scope of property taxes, has nothing to do with property taxes. It is a lid on the total budget and this bill that we have now, the amendments that are on it now will permit the property taxes of the State of Nebraska, certain subdivisions, to go up seven mills, ten mills, twenty mills, thirty mills, makes no difference. If you want to do exactly and have a lid bill that is a meaningful

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