

Anyone below a salary of \$10,500 is really going to make a little money on it, not much, but a little...could. Above that it may cost them a little. But these facts I think prove that it is not affecting the poor people nearly as much as we are led to believe. Another big point...where are we going to replace the fifteen to thirty million dollars? You know that a lot of this money comes from tourists, from people living on the perimeter of Nebraska, with the exception of Iowa. They come into Nebraska to shop. Tourists go through Nebraska. Why shouldn't they pay for the privilege, using our highways, our streets, our stores, a very token amount to shop here. We should collect that, I firmly believe, and think twice before we pass this of where we are going to get that fifteen to thirty million dollars to replace it. For these reasons, I will oppose this. I will continue to oppose the elimination of a food tax.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers...Senator... a minute and a half. All right, you have then...

SENATOR COPE: May I...I had forgotten to say it, but I would like to yield the rest of my time...

PRESIDENT: You want to yield the rest of your time, which is a minute and a half...

SENATOR COPE: Yield it to Senator Kelly.

PRESIDENT: ...to Senator Kelly. All right.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President and members of the Nebraska Legislature, I want to read into the record this following statement as it would affect the refunds that the citizens of Nebraska receive from the food sales tax. This is in reference to a letter that we all received from the Nebraskans United for Food, 2202 South 11th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68502, which stated: "According to the Department of Revenue, 100,000 Nebraskans did not receive their food credit last year. The 100,000 unpaid food tax refund figure was incorrect...was incorrect...was incorrect for John L. Decker, Deputy Tax Commissioner. Mr. Decker indicated that 30,533, that is two percent of those who qualified for the refund, did not apply in 1978. There were 1,466,064 refunds allowed in 1978. The approximately 29,885 citizens who did not qualify for the tax refund possibly did not receive it for the following reasons: People residing in tax exempt housing, such as nursing homes, prisons,...

PRESIDENT: Half a minute, Senator Kelly.