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the most reasonable approach, and those who have yelled and argued so eloquently on the floor that the credit system is the preferable system ought to be supporting keeping that credit system high enough and adequate enough to do the job for the middle, the median income in the state. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, I can't resist, particularly with Senator Johnson on his feet, that I don't know whether it is a paradox, an enigma or just confusion but here we have before us two noble gentlemen who would save the populace by eliminating some of the sales tax, and if you look at the voting record on LB 28 last year to extend the cent and a half sales tax, guess who voted affirmatively on both issues. I don't know whether you save a man by pushing him deeper into the water or by dragging him up on the rocks to freeze to death but we do have a problem.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think Senator Newell's amendment to Senator Maresh's amendment is the proper figure that we ought to be dealing with on the whole situation concerning the food sales tax credit. As I mentioned yesterday in discussing LB 16, my belief is unless we raise the credit to \$30, we are really not being fair. As Senator Newell mentioned, all figures, all research, all statistics, and I know statistics don't always influence decisions, but if you look at them, you will find that \$30 is where that tax credit ought to be. That is the fair level that compensation ought to be given to people for what is basically a regressive tax and that is the sales tax on food. Now I know that the Governor has suggested \$26 is the reasonable level, that that is the level that we can afford. My feeling is, however, \$30 is the preferable level and that we should take the initiative, take the leadership and support the Newell amendment and raise to \$30 the food sales tax credit. Now I have talked to several of you about this matter and the feeling is that the Governor doesn't want it. The Governor will veto it so let's not do it. I submit to you that it is the Legislature's responsibility to decide what is best for the State of Nebraska, for the citizens of this state concerning this issue and all issues, and whether the Governor likes it or not, if it is the right thing to do, I think we ought to do it and raising the tax credit to \$30 is indeed in my

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