

with to have a one cent this and a two cent that or a 1% this and a 2% that confuses the issue. What if the motels and hotels in an area don't want it? Then they are bothered with a 1% or one cent tax. Then if the county does want it, the motel operators don't want it, you have a confusion. What if the city and the county both want the two cents or the 2% and each are fighting for it. I think it is just a horrible bill to start with and regardless of the amendment or no amendment it still ought to be killed. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Simon, did you wish to speak to the amendment to the amendment? Senator Kahle, amendment to the amendment?

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President and members of the body, I enjoy the debate and I have enjoyed in the past the controversy that we have had over a lodging tax and calling it a dog and a dead horse and everything else really does not impress me because every time I go into another state I pay the tax and I can't figure out why Nebraska has been sleeping all these years. Maybe we are too late. We probably missed our chance to get a few bucks out of our neighboring travellers as they travel through the state. I am not sure they are going to come in as big of droves as they did in the past with gas at a dollar and a quarter a gallon as I think it is about this morning. But I think it is absolutely silly that we, Nebraska, are not collecting a sales tax or a tax on lodging because we have one of the main channels of transportation right through the middle of our state. We probably have more motels, hotels, restaurants, what have you along that interstate than most states, especially for our population but we are not tapping that resource. I am not even going to get into the argument of who should get the money and that of course is what the amendment is so I am probably out of order, but I do feel that a division of that money is not all that bad and I just cannot understand why we will pay 9% tax total, lodging, sales, what have you in just about any other state you go to and Nebraska is stupid enough not to have any lodging tax at all. It just doesn't make sense.

PRESIDENT: Senator Fitzgerald, do you wish to speak to the amendment to the amendment?

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Mr. Speaker, I sat at this hearing, Senator Brennan and I, and there was two of us in the committee and I am amazed that these senators have the wisdom now to put this bill out on the floor. I mean, they never sat at the hearing. There was two. There was some people