

SENATOR WESELY: I know Senator DeCamp would like to advance this bill as quickly as possible with as limited future debate on this, but I think we are all learning a lot from the debate concerning this bill. I have learned a lot. I have been reading more about it and I have got an amendment up there, one of those, perhaps not ridiculous, but maybe perhaps a gutting of the bill that would eliminate the two percent county option but leave the one percent state. I am for the bill. I like the one percent. I like the idea of building up some funds and trying to promote Nebraska as a tourism spot. I don't know if you realize that in my sordid background I was once a tour guide in Nebraska. I was out on the interstate in one of those programs and found that the people really liked Nebraska if they just came by and visited us, and I really believe in tourism and promotion and I am for that activity, but I don't like the idea of the counties picking up a two percent sales tax. I think that is an erosion of our state tax base and I am very concerned about that. So with that amendment I would be more than willing to vote for the bill, and I think perhaps there are many other people I have talked to that have the same concerns, and so it is not total opposition to the bill that Senator DeCamp should be concerned about, it is developing the support for the bill and seeing it pass that drew some amendments, hopefully, such as I have proposed so we can see this thing enacted, and so I think we ought to discuss the matter and take care of it today.

PRESIDENT: Senator Merz.

SENATOR MERZ: Mr. President and members of the body, I took a little thought about what Senator Murphy said and I think he has a good point. We have tourists, ninety percent of them are here through the four months in the summer time, so maybe we ought to collect it in the summer when the tourists are here...

PRESIDENT: Senator Merz, I hate to interrupt you but would you talk on the motion to suspend the rules to take this matter up?

SENATOR MERZ: So I think we should spend some more time talking about it as...

PRESIDENT: All right, thank you.

SENATOR MERZ: ...there is more ideas here than we had before...just to express some more ideas. Thank you.