

February 6, 1980

LB 44

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the body...

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Madam President, I thought we did away with those...well moving right on to the amendment which is the only place I may even have a chance to win, the amendment deals with a couple of the problems that I see with the Beutler amendment. It also addresses Senator Warner's problem and Senator Goodrich's problem with the indexing question. Now basically we are not indexing in this sort of a situation and if we are indexing, we are indexing in a manner in which we all have authorized and there has never been any constitutional question about authorizing. We are going to have the State Board of Equalization which now indexes for us in a relationship equal to what we spend and we are going to have that State Board of Equalization set a figure based on, using the Murphy amendment to the nearest dollar, based on what the median average family cost would be per individual in that household and doing that, we peg the dollar amount that we have always said we were pegging it at, and that is that median average individual. We are talking about that average, that median. We are talking about that pegged figure where we have said we have always tried to reimburse the food tax credit at. We have never reached that point but we have always said and that has been the philosophy behind the credit system. You see, remember the credit system is aimed at trying to deny the rich any great privilege or benefit from the credit system but to make sure we help out the average guy, the median, whatever that median is and if our commitment is true, sometimes I doubt the sincerity of members of this body, but if our commitment is true we will adopt this amendment and then we will adopt the Beutler proposal because then we have done what we said we have always intended to do which we have never done and I doubt we really mean to do. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the Newell amendment to the Beutler amendment. Senator Kahle, your light is on. Do you wish to speak to that? The motion is the Newell amendment to the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker and members, I think this just complicates the bill worse than it was before and I can't support it at all so I am against the Newell amendment and the Beutler amendment generally because we are setting a precedent to tying what we are going to spend in Nebraska