

because I think the state sales tax is a state tax and should be controlled by the state and should not be allowed to be given back to counties as we have done with cities in other situations. Basically this is an amendment that was discussed before, that there was support for it. There is some questions, there is some concerns. I hope you have had a chance to think about it, but let's go back to 1% state tax, state administered for state promotion of tourism in Nebraska. We can come back next year and provide for county option or for returning funds to the counties. We can take care of that problem but let's get on the books a lodging tax that promotes tourism in Nebraska. I think this is a major step. I think we should realize that perhaps a small step is better than a large step, that 1%, we are talking about \$800,000 more collected to promote tourism. At 3% we were talking about two and a half million dollars to promote tourism. That is a lot of money. We would go from the bottom of the pile to the top of the states in terms of tourism dollars and I think that might be too big a step in Nebraska. The 1% at \$800,000, state administered, is something we think should be done, is reasonable, and takes care of the problems about the local sales tax option the counties would have that I think concerns a lot of us. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the Wesely amendment to LB 499 as found on page 635. The Chair recognizes Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, with all due respect to my good friend Senator Wesely, I oppose the amendment. This also kills the bill, guaranteed, so if you want to kill the bill, that is the way to do it and I quite frankly admire him for continually trying to kill the bill. But, Donald, you are going to be shocked at what I am going to say next. Donald, Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska, the wonderful terrific town that it is, is not the center of the universe. Now I know it hurts, it hurts, I know. Now we do design legislation for Lincoln down here and we do it regularly, and I participate and I help, but, Donald, there really honestly are other places out there. Yes, you have to drive a car, take a truck or something. You have to get outside the city limits but there are really people out there. There are places like North Platte, Alliance. Up north, we even have a place called Neligh and O'Neill. Now we have discovered over the years, school lands, for example, that money that goes to Lincoln generally stays in Lincoln or moves fifty miles down the road to an even larger town. It is conceivable, Donald, that not all counties will want,