

March 20, 1980

LB 627

LB 2 on top of the school district of Omaha. The University of Omaha polled those that voted for the lid, the zero growth lid on property taxes for the Omaha school district, and they came with the conclusion that the parent age group which is generally also a pretty good earnings group had not voted to impose the lid but the elderly had overwhelmingly imposed it. They also concluded and in this part I think they were wrong that the elderly did not have as much interest in the education of children. That might be a small factor but I think the entire factor is the fact that the elderly and those on fixed incomes were voting bread and butter when they imposed that zero growth lid. Now we can handle this with LB 609. We are not voting for or against any change in LB 2 at this point. We have the other measure before us and I think there is going to have to be some compromise on the approaches in here, very possibly to get this out of the Legislature. I don't know what the vote coming up is. Maybe I am wrong. It has been a highly lobbied issue by the educators but don't forget that when we had the constitutional amendment coming, generally educators were in favor of legislative lids, not all, but generally they were more afraid of a constitutional lid. Now when we have imposed it I think we ought to be very careful in reducing it in a moderate way so the public will not feel that we pulled a sham on the public by putting it on and then taking away as this bill does, the right of petition. It goes too far. It disenfranchises the voters from the right of petition and it is not a good measure. It is a belief as whether you think the voters still have the right. We are taking it so far away from them in this bill I think it is intolerable and unconscionable to pass this piece of legislation as is drafted before us. So I ask you to support the kill motion. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion before the House is the kill motion on 627. All those in favor of indefinitely postponing the bill vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: (Read record vote as found on page 1360 of the Legislative Journal.) 12 ayes, 26 nays and 11 not voting, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion lost. What is the next amendment?

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment is offered by Senator Burrows. (Read Burrows amendment as found on page 1361 of the Legislative Journal.)