

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, in about one minute I would like to tell you why I support Senator Schmit's kill motion. We are talking about state aid again, really, and it has always been a little game around here, we, whether we are urban or rural like to get our hands in the states jeans. That is spelled with a "J". We like to get our fingers in the states pocketbook and this is another situation. Ordinarily when we are having state aid we have some kind of a formula that returns the money back to the people or the governmental entities across the state. It will be necessary to do this whether it be with 691 or 882. So, Senator Newell was talking a minute ago about this and I would like to touch on it. He said, 882 would reward counties for spending more money. This isn't necessarily so. It would reward them if they were taxing themselves as they ought to. I suggest to you that those of you who are looking at that comparison sheet, you look at the communities that are taxing themselves sufficiently, they are coming out all right. Those that are not are not coming out all right, this is the split, not urban or rural. It is whether you want to tax yourself as you should or not. Look at Omaha. Why do they come out better with one? Why do they not come out good with 882? Because they refuse to tax themselves as they ought. Even their own vote that they took last summer or last fall whenever it was indicates that Omaha doesn't want to tax themselves. They are opposed to it. They would rather get their hands in the coffers of the State of Nebraska. This is why we have the split, not urban or rural. The incentives are.....the incentives of 691 "The incentives keep values high", that is the quote of Senator Newell. Not true. The incentives are not enough to make county commissioners, county assessors keep those values high. The pressure is too close to those people to keep those values up. They would much rather go the route of 691 and get their hands in our coffers rather than to tax themselves as they ought to. This is why I appreciate 882 more than 691 and approve it. When local governments won't tax themselves, it should not be the responsibility of the Legislature to come along and say we will pick up whatever you don't want to do for yourself. That is what 691 does. We make welfare recipients out of areas who do not want to tax themselves as they ought to. I strongly suggest the killing of 691.

SPEAKER MARVEL: I hope the Legislature recognizes that we are trying to move back and forth to get the pros and the cons. This does not necessarily mean that everybody is going to get a chance to speak. Senator Beutler.