

March 27, 1980

LB 608

homestead bill, I think that the Revenue Committee concluded in the end that the time may well have come for the State of Nebraska to go under the circuit breaker concept. Now there are other members here of the committee that can speak for themselves, but that's what my own conclusion is as to what happened in the Revenue Committee, and 608 costs less dollars than 647 with the \$40,000 figure in it. 608 looks at all income rather than not looking at all income. 608 is a very, very viable alternative to our present homestead situation. 608 is the kind of concept that has been adopted in, I think twenty-five different states. I may be wrong on the figure but probably close to a majority of states that are in the homestead business. So just because it is close to the end of the day, just because people are tired, just because people think that we have had enough palaver on revenue matters is no reason, absolutely none, for this body to kill 608.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Dworak, do you wish to be recognized? We are on the kill motion.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, I oppose the kill motion. I think when we determine exactly how much money we spent in the other homestead bill and when people back home find out how much money we spent and find out what ramifications are going to be on the existing tax rates and with 24 members of this body up for reelection and going to be out campaigning talking to those folks, telling them what a great job we did down here, we are even going to want a few viable alternatives on that floor...on that board, and 608 is one of those alternatives. I alluded earlier to my remarks that every time we come in with a homestead exemption we throw more types of aid and more types of things. We did it this afternoon again with Senator Chronister's amendment. Not based on income, a guy could be worth \$25,000,000 and he is going to be exempted homestead exemption. We have situations in Columbus. I know of a man personally who lives in a \$175,000 house, bought three Cadillacs last year for members of his family. He wears one of those neck collars. He is disabled and he pays no property taxes. And I think we are going to have to face up to some of these things we are doing. Another thing we are perpetuating in the other homestead bill is that I, myself, qualify for a \$27...\$26 homestead exemption, and I have no business getting a homestead exemption. A lot of people like me across the state qualify for that type of aid, and it is just not right and when you take that across the state, it is a tune of six or seven million dollars we pump into that kind of a situation. I don't know how in good conscience