

April 2, 1980

LB 608

so complicated for the elderly. I might say that on my desk I must have close to five hundred or probably closer to five fifty letters saying they oppose LB 608. They support LB 647 raising the valuation from \$25,000 to \$40,000; raising the income limitation to coincide with the federal. It is as simple as that. We adopted Governor Thone's amendment. The amendment is now on 647. I urge you to let 647 go on to Final Reading and reject LB 608 or reject the amendments because it is the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Keyes, do you wish to speak on the bill, 608? Okay, Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker and members, my colleague Senator Johnson says it takes a lot of courage to get up and support 608. I've got more courage than brains probably. So I would like to ask Senator Carsten or Senator Dworak, whoever could answer it, a little bit about 608. Senator Carsten, maybe I could start with you. Does this take away the small tax that we all get a refund on?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Yes.

SENATOR KAHLE: Okay, and then it puts it all into the fund and only those that qualify for need will receive funding. Is that right?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Yes. That is my understanding.

SENATOR KAHLE: Okay, I think this is an excellent idea. I have always wondered, I know I've been told that Senator Carpenter passed this bill back in his days and of course it drew a lot of votes when everybody got a little bit of credit on their tax but the way our taxes are today those few dollars that we get on credit on our home amount to absolutely nothing to us as individuals. I shouldn't say absolutely nothing but practically nothing. So I strongly support that part of the bill at least that takes away that \$20, \$25 or whatever it might be that we would get the credit for on our tax when your home tax is between \$1,500 and \$2,000, that little amount doesn't make that much difference and if you are going to help those that need the help, let's help. Let's don't be fooling around and trying to do everybody a good turn so we look good. So I support 608 for that reason. Now some of the other things that are brought up may need some work on it but I think it is absolutely ridiculous that everybody that owns a home gets a reduction of some kind and let's help those that are elderly and those that need it. Thank you.