

we can initially and after we have tried to get the money and haven't been able to get the money then we have given our Tax Commissioner the authority to go ahead and contract with a collection agency and try to get the money. Now it seems to me that this is a reasonable method for the state to undertake to try to try to collect some of its income and sales tax deficiency and I would certainly commend to this body the movement of this bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Before I call on the next speaker I would like to introduce to you under the South balcony, Mrs. Gordon Bryant, Sr., Mrs. Ralph Anderson, Jr., Mrs. James R. Goll, Miss Suzanne Bryant all Tekamah, Nebraska. They are guests of Senator Goll. Will you stand and be recognized please. The next speaker is Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, Senator Johnson, would you yield to a question please? Senator Johnson, I can't help but keep wondering why we feel that a collection agency would be more effective in collecting a delinquent tax than the State of Nebraska itself. Do you feel it would be? In other words, it is going to cost us something and could not the State of Nebraska, the Department of Revenue set up their own person, perhaps trained and maybe save a little money? I don't know.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Senator Kremer, that is an excellent question. I happen to agree with you that the Nebraska Department of Revenue is undoubtedly the finest collector of taxes that we have when those taxes are due from instate taxpayers but the real problem is that we have a fair number of Nebraska taxes that are due from people who live elsewhere and it makes it difficult for the Nebraska Department of Revenue to get lawyers and to get the collection apparatus going outstate or elsewhere. I shouldn't say outstate but away from the State of Nebraska and that is what this bill does. It only affects those delinquencies from those tax payers who don't live in Nebraska.

SENATOR KREMER: I understand that but I can...do you have any idea what kind of a contract it would be? What percentage of the tax itself would go for the collection agency itself? I am not against your bill. I am trying to go for the most persuasive way to collect these taxes. They should be collected but my question continues to be, could not the State of Nebraska itself do a better job because it goes out in the name of the State of Nebraska? When I get a piece of correspondence, if it carries the stamp of the State of Nebraska, I pay attention, or the federal government.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Well let me just...if I might, take some of Senator Kremer's time just to quickly respond to that.