

shelters, exemptions and benefits for other people. This particular item costs us in lost tax receipts, that is what this Tax Expenditure Budget says, the exclusion of interest on state local housing bonds in 1980, in 1980, as a tax expenditure, of \$820 million, \$820 million, and that is more than the general fund for the State of Nebraska and that is one little tax item. Now as I said earlier, Congress isn't even doing away with the program. It is not going to eliminate this particular tax expenditure. It is only tightening it up. Senator Wesely would have us loosen it up again or memorialize Congress to loosen it up again. I submit to you, fellow legislators, in this time of austerity, in this time of conscious and careful and prudent spending both in programmatic spending and in tax expenditure spending, leave a look at it. Let's have a public hearing on it. Let's consider whether we do want to so memorialize Congress, and if so, we will pass a resolution at that time but please don't vote blindly on this resolution. Let us understand first what it's full impact and ramifications are.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Well, I wasn't going to say anything more but Vard raised a couple of good points and I think he doest protesteth a trifle too much. I get the feeling that Vard is kind of a new leader of the conservatives here and that is what kind of got me nervous in the first place. Vard is worried about the federal government losing, losing this \$872 million or whatever it is. Now that is all based on a little presumption. That is all based on a presumption that all these people, Bernice and her \$10 million that she bought these funds with, that my poor Mama Bernice is so dumb that she is going to invest in something that she can pay massive taxes to the federal government. Well, Bernice isn't that dumb. With her \$10 million if she doesn't put it in this tax exempt, she will put it in something else, some other munny bond or federal bond or tax exempt bond and so that \$872 million that is lost to the federal government is kind of a pretty artificial thing. Secondly, secondly, Vard talked about these standards we don't know anything about. Well, that is not entirely true, is it? Larry Stoney, Walter George when he was here, you all knew what our program was. You know how it worked. Not one penny of federal or tax money was involved in it. A person went to borrow a loan just like they'd go to a private lender, in fact they went to the private lenders, they made their down payment of ten or fifteen or twenty percent, whatever it was, and they pay the money back. Purely private, no subsidies, no grants, no freebies, they had to pay her all back. As Davie brought out, Davie Newell, he said, "Well, we ought to be doing this through