

March 23, 1981

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File to see if we need to do anything different. Other than that, let's go with the bill the way it is now.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, now the fun begins for the session. Senator Schmit has very frankly told you that this issue should be linked with others and I think he is probably correct in terms of what will actually happen. I don't know whether it should or not unless it is going to be linked with something that is going to go down to defeat but the Legislature down through the years on this issue has voluntarily allowed itself to be tricked, duped and suckered. I say allowed itself to do so because taxes are like dope. There is no such thing as sampling it and letting it go. You become addicted to it. Omaha is addicted to the sales tax and they are going to keep it. They will make deals. They will trade. They will trick. They will cry. They will grovel. They will beg. They will plead. They will lie. They will do anything to get the tax. They have done it so far. They equipped Mayor Veys with knee pads so he could come crawling down here again. The Lincoln Star has tried to restore some dignity to Omaha by telling the Legislature, "Save that city from itself. They lied to you". And they have, and they are lying again and you will buy it. This bill, Senator Schmit, is going to go. Omaha is going to be given the tax again. Now when they talk to you, and when I say, "they", I am talking about the ones who support this bill, when they talk about a vote by the people, that amendment was drafted in such a way that the people thought they were voting to end the tax in 1981, not to extend it. That is what they thought they were voting for. Let there be a pure issue given to them which will never occur now because the juggernaut is on the rails and it is going to run right through this Legislature like Reagan is going to run through the country, and in the same way that Reagan is going to ruin the country, this bill is going to ruin the Legislature. You all are going to come back here one of these days, the farmers who don't pay income tax but makes tons of money, yes, Senator Kahle, that is what I said, are going to load all kind of programs on the sales and income tax and let those landed gentry in the western part of the state get away scot-free, and when you try to get the Omaha Senators to vote for your proposition, they are going to say there is already a cent and a half tax on top of the state sales tax so no, no, no, a thousand times no. This is a political issue as it always will be. I like the way that...I think Senator DeCamp is the one...let me

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