

SENATOR KOCH: A year ago I had a bill before the Revenue Committee which was to take away the sales tax from the city and to offer a revenue sharing program to the cities, to the counties and the school districts but no one saw fit to accept that. And I am saying today, let's forget personalities and get on with the business and arrive at something which will be fair to all of us or as fair as we can get, and if it is not right, we can always change it. One thing about this body, it can act with expediency. That is why I support the Unicameral and I always will.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Well, Mr. President, members of the body, my first initial reaction after Senator DeCamp's rather emotional outburst was to stand up and defend myself and kind of unveil how we got to the plan and try to resolve whether or not there was any honest disagreement about what we were talking about. I guess when you look at the transcript, Senator DeCamp read parts of that transcript, and I think that I would just like to read very briefly part of that transcript, and talk to the issue. Basically, Senator Newell said, "Mr. President, members of the body, I rise to support the Schmit amendment but I would like to before we get into extolling the virtues of this amendment I would like to ask Senator DeCamp a question. Will you yield?" "Yes," said Senator DeCamp. "Senator DeCamp, in discussions with you and Senator Schmit, you basically looked at trying to create the least amount of problems over a long period of time and basically come up with what we hope would be a compromise to be offered on Select File, a compromise using Senator Schmit's formula which we are about to vote for and then go to the valuation and then go to 90-10 population. Is this in fact your understanding, Senator DeCamp?" Senator DeCamp read you pretty much what he said which basically was in agreement and I said, "Senator DeCamp, you forgot the sunset provision." He said, "Yes, the sunset is tacitly in the amendment anyway." Now that may in fact be a point of contention or not but we go on then and say, "I understand. I support the Schmit amendment and we have, in fact, resolved the problem. I think we have worked this out. We have got a phased in formula, et cetera, et cetera." Now here we all are really trying to decide what the agreement was. If I asked Senator Beutler who I want to explain the agreement or to those who I explain the agreement to, basically there was no understanding. There was no agreement to Senator Beutler and Senator Wesely and the Lincoln folks and the Omaha folks basically said, "You know, we can't live with the Schmit amendment the way it is." I said, "Don't worry about it. We are going to have a sunset on it. We are not going to repeal the local option tax, et cetera." Now that in fact may be a point of contention but I think we have to here today look at the issue. We