

notifying everybody in advance. Is that . . . am I correct or wrong.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Yes, yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, that is what I wanted to know.

SPEAKER MARVEL: No, small "g". Okay, then we will proceed with Item 6, Select File, LB 284 and the Speaker's speaking list that I have here from Senator Clark starts out with Senator Schmit. Senator Schmit. Is this right? Do you want to announce that? The Clerk will bring us up to date as to what we are talking about.

CLERK: Mr. President, we last considered the bill this morning. The E & R amendments were adopted. We have pending an amendment from Senator DeCamp which is found on page 1340 of the Journal.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I oppose the DeCamp amendments for some of the reasons that I gave previously in discussion on this floor. I guess I am a little bit amazed at the fact that in some instances we have come almost full circle on this floor. Some of the people who have originally vigorously opposed the DeCamp proposal are now in the DeCamp camp. I . . . and those who one time suggested it might be a logical approach are now opposed to it. I want to say very emphatically that of the various proposals that have been offered that the DeCamp amendments to LB 284 are not the worst. I want to remind you and those of you who were not here when we first started out on this long and tortuous road of the commitment that was made a long while ago relative to the replacement of the personal property tax that was lost to the local subdivisions. As we proceeded through the courts, through the legislative process, we found it more and more difficult to find a formula which would replace exactly to the local subdivisions the funds which they lost. Only yesterday we argued at length on this floor about LB 40 because of the need for the City of Omaha to retain the funds which it has learned to depend upon in city government that are raised with the 1½% sales tax. When I introduced LB 524 that formula was very frankly weighted towards the cities, based upon the premise that we would eventually be able to buy the cities out of the sales tax provision. In the course of that discussion the one outstanding objection that was always held forth was that Omaha could not afford to lose those revenues upon which they have come to depend. That was why when I drew the bill I also drew amendments that weighted the population formula so that Omaha, the metropolitan class city, would receive 1½, 1.6 maybe twice as many dollars per capita as would any other city, because, I recognized the problem that Omaha would face if we