

April 9, 1981

LB 284

we going to have a sunset on that so we can reconsider it every year? What is the deal? I don't understand why all of a sudden there is a big flap about it. Are we going to sunset state aid to schools every year so that we come back in, talk about it, hold everybody hostage? No, we don't do this. None of these other things do we do it. Yesterday we decided not to do it with LB 40, so why are we doing it today? I really resist coming right back and trying to do this.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. Chairman and members, I rise to oppose the Newell amendment. It seems to me that...or the Wesely amendment, I guess, as it is now. It seems to me that what is sauce for the goose, perhaps, is sauce for the gander. It is true that some of us are going to vote against LB 40 whether or not it has a sunset provision on it. LB 40 at this present time doesn't have a sunset provision, but it probably will pass. I have a feeling there are some members in this body that are going to vote against 284 whether or not it has a sunset provision. But I would remind this body, and Senator Newell indicated that no distribution formula would be changed unless the crisis situation existed and I doubt that. I think that I would say as a member of the Revenue Committee it would seem to me that what he is saying to us is that the Revenue Committee is not very serious in looking at an alternative and I don't think that is true. I think Senator Carsten and the other members of the Revenue Committee are committed to looking at the tax situation as it exists in the State of Nebraska. Twenty-five votes can change the statutes no matter what the statute in including the statute that LB 284 will be a part of. So I don't think that it is necessary to have a sunset provision to look at this issue again in a couple of years or whenever the Revenue Committee comes up with another proposal. As a matter of fact, I think it would be better to have the proposal come forth from the Revenue Committee that would, in fact, wipe out the statutes that would be 284. I think this same argument could be used against the sunset provision on 284 as was used yesterday so eloquently by the Omaha delegation on 40. Since we are not going to sunset the Omaha sales tax extension, Senator Newell, then it seems...and the reason we didn't was so that Omaha couldn't be held hostage or put in a situation a couple of years from now where they had to play games with rural Nebraska, it seems to me that this same thing would hold true here, then rural Nebraska through this