

April 9, 1981

LB 284

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I did vote for the Lamb amendment and I guess I wasn't paying much attention to the situation and that is the reason I am moving for reconsideration at this time. This is significant. I think that probably when you are talking about as significant an issue as this perhaps we should take time to look at the situation again in a couple of years and I think that perhaps the sunset provision isn't an unwise one. I would like to yield a minute of my time to Senator Schmit at this point. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I will just say this. I don't know what is going to happen. Senator Newell said if the Lamb amendment went on he would have to vote against 284, and I don't know which one of us is going to be the hardest pressed to explain when Senator Newell and I vote together against 284.

SENATOR WESELY: And now I would like to yield my time to Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President and members of the body, I think Senator Schmit and I can both explain why we are opposed to 284. I will oppose 284 if this amendment is not stricken. Frankly, the sunset provision is the only thing the urban area has got. That is an absolute unqualified unmitigated fact. Now let me say that Senator Haberman, Senator Lamb, Senator Hefner, all these people who so gloriously talked about Omaha didn't have the sunset provision, all of them required Omaha to have a sunset provision on their sales tax or they would not vote to advance the bill. Isn't it surprising at the same time we find that Senator Lamb did not vote to advance the bill, that Senator Haberman did not vote to advance the bill, that Senator Hefner did not vote to advance the bill? Almost everyone who spoke about the need to have this off did not vote to advance the bill. Now, why, why now do we have a situation where they say, well, let's compare these things? I think the rural areas if they think this is important should not vote to advance the.... should not offer to take the sunset off as we did. But the bottom line truth is that we will never get to any sort of review if, in fact, we do not sunset this issue, and, frankly, this bill is not a good bill for anyone who lives in an urban area, and without the opportunity to review it and to make changes in it and to look at the whole tax system, this is a poor solution to a very