

April 13, 1981

LB 3

is what this amendment attempts to promote. The idea clearly is a distinction from the committee amendment because it recognizes in place industry such as in my case Kawasaki, or OMB, who might want to retool and add to their existing facilities a new line. Kawasaki, for example, has been manufacturing snowmobiles in Lincoln. The market there has stymied. They would like to retool that plant and go to lawnmower production, lawnmower motor production, and yet that is a questionable economic choice for them. That is a heavy investment of money. It will mean the retention of jobs but it will mean a heavy investment of retooling. With the Landis-Goodrich amendments they can achieve that with the incentive of the exemption from the sales tax for that retooling. That retooling will mean a healthy economy in the City of Lincoln. It will mean the retention of jobs and it will mean growth for the City of Lincoln and I am interested in that, and I hope this body is as well. We all have the example of Case Cummings in Omaha, but there are also existing in place in industries and manufacturers around the state who may want to expand, and I see no reason to discriminate against them in their plans for growth and yet to encourage growth simply by new industries who are, in effect, doing the same thing of pumping life blood into the Nebraska communities by expanding economic opportunities. If an industry is going to expand economic opportunities, and we wish to give that an incentive, we should apply that across the board to new and existing facilities in this state. That is the concept behind the amendment. I am happy to open myself up to questions, or I am sure Senator Goodrich will as well. If you have questions for either of us, feel free to ask them now. Otherwise, I would ask the body to accept this amendment in lieu of the committee amendment and to move LB 3.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the Goodrich-Landis amendment to the committee amendments. Senator Cope, do you wish to speak to those amendments?

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President and members, I certainly do. I support the amendments. In fact, this makes a bill now that I think really has merit. It bothered me when I thought that only new industry would be given this break. I am thinking of industries that are the old faithfuls that came to this state years ago and sort of pioneered their way for industry, and I think they should have the same breaks as new industries. It is often the case that a city will work real hard to get a new industry and as soon as they get it they forget about it, and that isn't