

April 27, 1981

LB 284

ourselves on the horns of a dilemma, I guess you could call it, because we can't find a constitutional hole to go through, and I am no attorney but the last ruling we got from the Attorney General, I believe had more philosophy in it than it had law, and I really object to that. But not being an attorney, I don't know how to object in a legal way. But I don't know what we are trying to do. If you want to increase school aid, let's increase school aid. If you want to replace personal property tax, let's replace personal property tax. And if we can't find a scheme, as Senator Johnson just said, to do it, I don't know what is the matter with our system, because we certainly aren't getting any place with what we are trying to do to replace that money. I don't know how many of you realize, I think that just a while back the Revenue Department or someone in that arena said that actually the loss is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$130,000 now that local governments are losing because we took the personal property tax off. I guess I for one regret that we didn't leave 10 percent on, and I know that we would have a battle with some of my friends in the balcony if we tried to put it on. But just think what that would do, \$130,000 that we would pay...\$130 million, beg your pardon, I got corrected here, \$130 million would cost the taxpayers out there, \$13 million, and we would get \$117 million from the State of Nebraska and it would be legal, just as legal as could be. So maybe we are not thinking quite straight. But I will tell you one thing, if you folks from the urban areas that want to hog this money that rightfully belongs to where the tax was relieved, we might just go back to that and we will see then how much it costs the State of Nebraska, if you don't want to compromise and make it somewhere near reasonable. Again I state, if you want to go for state aid, I am for that, but this is a different subject. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator DeCamp. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? The question is, shall debate cease? Record the vote.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion carries. Debate ceases. Senator Newell, will you close on your motion?

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, I know that everyone is supposed to be at their seats.