May 14, 1981

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, and Senator Maresh, it is...no, I'm not going to ask you a question, I was about to give a eulogy. I am watching today, but I hope we can prevent it, the death of one of our colleagues, manhood. Rather than stand as he told me he would when he asked me to take a kill motion off this bill on Select File, he has assumed the shuffling, backward, bent-over, hand wringing posture of a coward. That's all I can say, Senator Maresh, because you tricked me...vou tricked me into taking a kill motion off this bill. and I do take that personally. I think when we say that we are going to take a position and calls one or more of our colleagues to alter a position based on the guarantee we give, then we violate our word, we have done something which justifies that person who received the violated word and acted upon it in responding. And I think it is time that the Senators know that our violations of our word which happen repeatedly as occurred even on that motion Senator DeCamp had for the church schools. is being seen by the public now. I was told yesterday that one of our most auspicious but, in the minds of the church people, suspicious leaders of the Legislature sent out a note that he is going to support them and then didn't do it. And these people who represent Jerry Falwell's point of view came to me calling me "Brother Chambers", we feel more close to you than these other people around here because we knew where you were but they made us a promise and violated it. And now here comes Senator Maresh not only with going back on his word but doing it in a way that should cause all of us to hang our heads in shame. It would be better not to have a bill at all than to offer a travisty like this to the public. About two years ago it was calculated that it would take about \$34 to be just and maybe \$36 for people in Omaha. and somewhere in between for the people in Lincoln who pay an additional sales tax on top of the state's 3 percent. The sales tax has been misnamed a tax because it is not supposed to generate revenue. It is placed on the food as a convenience. At the end of the year the amount that people pay on this food is to be returned. For the Governor to adopt the morally indefensible position of violating the promise that has been made to the public should cause all of us to reject resoundingly what Senator Maresh is offering to us this morning. Let him go back over his word, the rest of us ought not. I remember a promise that the Governor made last year, or implied, on ADC. He cut in half the appropriation that the Legislature made indicating that it should be done in two steps. So when I attempted to offer the second step this year, what did the honorable man do, he vetoed that. The amount is not what is involved, it is the principle and we are dealing with unprincipled people. He will get

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