

May 21, 1981

LB 561

So if the \$20 million triggers it, what happens? You roll back one percent of income in corporate tax. That is all you have to roll back because that brings in over twenty million dollars and that is a fact. So it is time we recognize, you can go home and tell your people we did this to help relieve the burden of property taxes. And it will happen. I just gave to you a handout. I see where the Governor likes polls and I want you to see this one. This is just hot off of the press. It was conducted by the Bureau of Sociological Research, Department of Sociology, University of Lincoln, Nebraska, and there were over 1800 people who were polled, and that is a good sampling. That is an excellent sampling, and let me state to you very quickly what they say. They believe education to be a very important part of our whole effort in this state but they say this, the one tax they want to cut most, that is property tax, 64% of them say that; and they say sales tax, 15%, that is the least concern of theirs; and income tax, 20% said they would like to see that cut, that is another least concern. But their major concern is the heavy burden upon property taxes, and if you look at that, I think we can justify an increase, if we have to, of sales or corporate income tax and give to the schools at least a part of the money they are going to need and try to reduce, as I said before, the call upon the property tax. We started on it, and if we step aside this year, we have made no progress in trying to reduce the call upon property tax. We will have lost everything we gained last year and I don't think that is good fiscal business. We made a commitment that we were going to try to at least keep it even, and if we should do this, I think our commitment is being kept. And I remind you of one other thing, when 318 was on General File, that bill called for about six million dollars fiscal impact for vocational education, gifted education, and English proficiency. There were those who said to me afterwards, if you will strike that section I will support you in getting general aid to public schools and I want you to remember that. There were those of you who said to me if you withdraw your amendment on 284 where I wanted to put \$41 million into the school aid formula, I will help you get general aid and I did that. There are some of you said to me, if you will help us a little bit at Ag College and become less vocal, we may help you a little bit later on. I remember those things and I submit to you today this is the moment of action. Let's put \$20 million into state aid, bring it up to \$105 million or \$115 million. LB 33 several years ago would have given us \$115 million this year, but the people by initiative repealed it. We'd have been there so I suggest to you that we will get to \$115 million where we should have been a couple of years ago, and I ask you and

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