

May 27, 1981

LB 12

would not buy an amendment I had to cap the increases at \$3200. That would have saved \$400,000 and we have room for this and have to take it back out of the sales tax on food. I can't believe what is happening. I can't believe this body won't override the veto on the sales tax on food. I think it is atrocious what we are doing here in taking from the poor to give to the rich or the wealthier people of the state in salaries across the board. Our Constitution law officers salary bill, we have got money for that maybe, for the judges' salaries, for the University highest salaries, and then we come around and take it out of the sales tax on food. I can't believe it. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, LB 3 was signed by the Governor. LB 12 in its public hearing had no one opposing it from the Governor's staff, no one opposing it from his budget department, no representative explaining that it ought to be a reduced figure, it ought to be an adjusted figure, it ought to be changed. At the last minute it leads us to speculate on the reasons for the veto by the Governor. The speculation simply must include the fact he does not wish to have sales or income taxes increase. In practicality you must look to your constituents across the State of Nebraska. They may not remember that there was a state reduction last year. They will remember if you do not override the Governor's veto. A very modest increase in income tax will be paid by those who have the funds to pay an income tax. A reason for an increase, a specific reason for an increase that treats the citizens of our state on a fair basis, why, when the public hearing was held on LB 12 was the Governor's Office absent if he needed to veto it at the very last minute. In fact, there was no need to try to change the figure. The introducer of the legislation was not apprised of the need to change the figure until the very last minute. My constituents are spending more in sales tax than \$31. My constituents feel this is a fair way for their government to treat them. I have been a strong advocate the nine years I have served in this body for keeping the sales tax on food. If this piece of legislation is not overridden this year, it seems to me I will have to change my position and no longer support sales tax on food but rather support the removal of sales tax on food, if we do not keep faith with the people. We have told the people, all branches of government have told the people, that you will receive a fair return on the sales tax you pay on food. If we do