

February 5, 1982

LB 454

every one of us to make sure that we continue to see a growth in our tax rates. That is contrary to the Governor's commitment. That is contrary to what this Legislature just said and for that reason 454 should be opposed. I urge the rejection of the motion to advance LB 454.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Underneath the North balcony the Urban Affairs would like to hold a meeting. Meanwhile the Chair recognizes Senator Burrows.

SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. President, members of the body, this is a totally unneeded bill in the Nebraska Legislature and I feel just in general terms a harassment bill to the retailers of the State of Nebraska. Simply a harassment to trigger sales tax changes quicker and more often, making them go through their cash register changes more frequently. If a tax system is going to be consistent and equitable, let us have some stability in rates. When we move to a half percent increment on the income tax and we move to a quarter cent increment on sales tax, what we do is just fluctuate tax rates more often. It is all that simple. We are writing into law more frequent changes in the tax rates which are eventually you are going to come out with the same revenue. We are going to have to cover what we spend with revenue from the sales/income tax the way the rest of the law is spelled out and all we do is make a more frequent change on the rates. I think the business community is entitled to some stability and get this work load off their back but instead all we are doing is doubling up the work load of the business community as that it does take a large share of their effort in collecting both the income tax and the sales tax. So now we play the game and we change it on a quarter percent of sales tax and a half percent of income tax. There are no real merits to this bill. We just change rates more often and I don't think anybody in the state wants to be under the situation they are not going to know what the rate is going to be next month or the next month. I urge the body to vote against this bill and get off the backs of the business community which is exactly what it is doing, forcing the retailers to be changing rates at one quarter of a percent and it never makes a bit of difference of how much the total tax take is going to be. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Hefner, the motion is to advance the bill.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise to support the bill. We heard it in Revenue Committee and what this bill would do, it would allow us to fine tune our system and Senator Newell and Senator Burrows talking about

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