

February 18, 1982

LB 706

properties off the tax roll, now it is your responsibility to return to the local subdivision funds for those which we have lost. When that time comes, then I think Senator Carsten will scream as will the rest of the members of the Revenue Committee. Senator Warner, who has watched the process for many years will say, I told you so, and the entire issue will have come full circle. I think the point that Senator DeCamp has raised is a more valid one. The property tax system is destructive and is one of the factors why we do not improve property. We ought to change the property tax system.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have 45 seconds.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I happen to believe that we should not rely so heavily upon the property tax system for the support of government. I believe the sales and income taxes are infinitely preferable, but I believe that unless we address the issue from the standpoint of whether or not we should support government from property taxes, we are not going to do anything substantive. It is unfortunate that many people in this body do not understand these bills, but even more unfortunate would be the fact that when the bills...the constitutional amendments are placed upon the ballot, the general public will have very little knowledge as to the constitution of those amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Before we proceed, it is my privilege to introduce to you 60 students from Northeast Technical Community College at Norfolk, Nebraska, Roger Shafer, teacher, and they are in the south balcony. Will you indicate where you are so we can say good morning. There you go. They are in Senator Richard Peterson's District. Underneath the south balcony it is my privilege to introduce Mrs. Duda, wife of Walter Duda, and their son, Claire, and his wife, Gayle. Where are you located? You should be underneath the south balcony. Right. Okay. Now the Chair recognizes Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I am aghast, Senator Schmit and Senator Beutler agree that Senator Beutler's language is wise, and I have to be chastened by the ying and yang of the Legislature coming together in that fashion and accept that amendment I think is the only strategic thing to do when half of the Mt. Rushmore of this legislative body agrees with the amendment. I cry "uncle", I yield. I will accept the Beutler amendment. It will narrow the focus of LB 706