

SENATOR CLARK PRESIDING

SENATOR CLARK: It is withdrawn.

SENATOR NEWELL: I am withdrawn.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next motion I have is from Senators Carsten and Warner. The motion is to return the bill to Select File for a specific amendment and it would read as follows: (Read the amendment as found on page 768 of the Journal).

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would move to return LB 454 for this specific amendment. And this amendment is a commitment that our committee has adopted as a part of the solution to what we understand to be a serious problem in the state relative to revenue measures. We tried to find a bill that was appropriate to do this with and it did appear that this was the one to use. And what the amendment does as our committee agreed to recommend to the body, was to suggest and recommend that the body adopt a 1 percent increase in the individual income tax. However, further realizing after a joint meeting with the Appropriations Committee last week and the Department of Revenue as well as the Governor's office, it did appear there was an extremely amount of uncertainty as far as the future is concerned. So we have drafted this bill with this wording that does give some flexibility, and as such depending upon the events that come down the road, the Board of Equalization could act accordingly as they should anyhow. It does seem appropriate and in our wisdom that this is going to be necessary and while we agree that it is an increase in the individual income tax, we view it in light of those circumstances that have developed from the federal level as well as the local level that it is a shift as opposed to that being an addition. This is part of a package, so to speak, that our committee has, or will be sending to the floor for this body's consideration to address Nebraska's situation as it is today. I would also recommend and suggest that if you agree and that you do support us in bringing this bill back for this specific amendment, and we do adopt the amendment, that we hold this bill in that position until the other three bills that we will have reported catch up with it so that we have them all together for analysis, and that we move with them collectively. With that, Mr. President, I move to return LB 454 to Select File for this specific amendment. Thank you.