

SENATOR SCHMIT: (No response).

SENATOR KAHLE: Is Senator Schmit in the room? If not, Senator Haberman is next. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: (Response inaudible).

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Haberman waives. Is Senator Schmit in the room? Senator Schmit is coming.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I apologize for the delay. I would just like to say once again we see on this floor and I have visited with Senator Landis about the problems the City of Lincoln has. I think we have talked about it many times and we have talked about it on the floor and we have talked about it in the Revenue Committee and I think Senator Carsten and his committee have tried many times to help resolve some of the many funding problems that face the cities and counties and villages in the State of Nebraska. That is the reason why for four years I have introduced a type of revenue sharing bill that would do basically what Senator Vickers and others have talked about and in fact what is now happening here today with the City of Lincoln, that is to provide for additional sales tax across the State of Nebraska to be reallocated back to all of the subdivisions of the State of Nebraska in some manner that would be deemed equitable by this Legislature. I think we have seen here, we are seeing here today a continuance of the situation which began a number of years ago when we first allowed the cities to have the local option sales tax. I think the practice has grown over the years. I well remember the day four years ago when I gave the City of Omaha, because of the extreme urgency for a limited period of time, only for one year, the 30th vote necessary to override Governor Exon's veto. To say that that vote has cost me dearly is an understatement. I want to say once again that the problems of the cities will not go away and the City of Lincoln is faced with the necessity of addressing those problems. Those problems are still with us in the schools and counties also. I'm not going to stand here today and attack Senator Landis' bill because I know that I am not prepared to say that the state does not need it. But I want to re-emphasize again, and I may at sometime later in the very few limited days we have left in this session try to bring to the attention of the Legislature the provisions of LB 964 so that you at least can have it before you, discuss it or think about it, because if you do not do that, we are going to have to face the harsh reality one of these days when the other subdivisions, second class cities, as Senator Vickers pointed out, villages,