

counties and most of all schools are not going to have the funding they need. The time will have passed us by when the next equitable distribution of funds can be made. So, I think you are going to have to address the issue but again not on a piece by piece basis. I'd have to at this time perhaps tell you that I'm not going to support the addition of the first class cities and I think, in the long run, to add the first class cities is a mistake without addressing the entire problem.

SENATOR KAHLE: There are no other lights. Senator Vickers, would you like to close?

SENATOR VICKERS: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman and members, so it is clear in everybodys mind exactly what you are voting on here, if you vote green then you are saying that we are going to put 591 back into its original form and we are going to debate and discuss and decide whether or not Lincoln should have an additional one-half percent city sales tax. If you vote red then you are going to be saying that we are going to apply this one-half percent additional city sales tax option to all first class cities in this state. Now, I remind you that was not part of the original bill. I further remind you that I don't think the first class cities had the option of coming into the hearing and making known their wishes one way or the other on how that might affect them. I will also remind you that there are a number of first class cities out there that do not have even the one percent city sales tax right now. As a matter of fact one of the first class cities in my district, the City of McCook, took that to the voters last year and it was turned down. So it seems to me that until there is a hue and cry from those first class cities to increase the amount that they have available to them right now, that it is very unlikely that we should be dealing with that subject out here giving them that additional one-half percent sales tax availability to them. Now I can assure you that if the body doesn't remove this provision, then I'm not going to let loose of this issue, because as Senator Schmit pointed out to you, the problems of the property tax payer in the State of Nebraska is not getting any better and it is going to get worse. It is not restricted only to the City of Omaha or Lincoln and we need to look at that situation. But I suggest to you that now is not the time to look at it only for the cities of a certain class, those cities of the first class or if we are gong to make that decision we should make it for all cities of all sizes. But I don't believe that that is actually what we should be doing either. I think bills are introduced in this Legislature for specific purposes and we should deal with that purpose of what that bill was