

March 17, 1982

L: 591

CLERK: Senator Vickers would move to amend the bill by adding second class cities and villages.

Roll call vote. 16 ayes, 20 nays, 6 present and not voting, 5 excused and not voting, 2 absent and not voting. Vote appears on page 1228 of the Legislative Journal.

SENATOR KAHLE: The motion fails. The Call is raised. Senator DeCamp, you have your light on.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Waiting for the next amendment.

SENATOR KAHLE: Proceed, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have two amendments, I have a priority motion offered by Senator Vickers and that would return the bill to committee for a public hearing.

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. Chairman and members, I get the distinct feeling that I am losing here this morning. I get the distinct feeling that reasonableness has nothing to do on this issue, but I think that it needs to be pointed out that we have expanded this bill considerably. I don't know personally how many first class cities there are in this state, but I'm sure that there are somebody in this body that could tell me, but I think that there are a number of cities out there that we have included in this bill that were not offered the opportunity to comment one way or the other at a public hearing on this issue. Now I happen to know the first class city in my district, McCook, just turned down this one percent option a year ago had no opportunity to respond to this and it seems to me that we should at least give them that opportunity to come in and tell us whether or not they want to have one-half percent extra as an option. Now, I'm sure that we would probably hear from people on both sides of that issue. But, for us to make such major decisions out here on the floor, without any opportunity for public hearings, for public input, I believe is wrong. I believe that it is fundamentally wrong with the way this body is set up to operate. I'm proud of the fact that Nebraska only has one issue in each bill. I'm also proud of the fact that our bills all have public hearings. I think we are all proud of that. We pride ourselves in being open and responsive to the public. But in this issue, right now, we are dealing with a number of people out there in the public that haven't had an opportunity to respond. For that