

being the sales tax on food and on utilities. I would like to remind the body that the home owner is the only person that pays a sales tax on utilities. All other parties have been exempted under law. The reason that I am introducing this amendment is to address a very serious situation, not only to have strong feelings about eliminating the tax on food and utilities but I think this is a good place to begin. How well I remember the last session how the City of Omaha, we were dealing with their increase in sales tax fought any idea of removing the sales tax on food and utilities, largely because they sensed that they would be losing revenue at a moment when they were asking for additional revenue. So, I guess what I am trying to do by this amendment is putting the City of Omaha and the City of Lincoln on notice as far as the seriousness of finally addressing the situation. I realize full well what we are attempting to do in Lincoln is to gain additional revenue without placing a tax, additional taxes on property. But at the same time, by increasing the sales tax we are placing additional burdens on those that are less privileged. So I would like to have the Legislature address this and hopefully we will on Select File. I just learned that Senator Goodrich is going to introduce a similar motion on Select File, which I have signed onto that is far more encompassing than this amendment which I presently propose. With that, recognizing that the hour is late, this is a very serious bill, I do not wish to further encumber the progress of LB 591. So I would move, Mr. Speaker, that this motion be laid over, withdrawn, excuse me.

SENATOR KAHLE: You are withdrawing your motion?

SENATOR WIITALA: I would request that my motion be withdrawn, yes.

SENATOR KAHLE: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR KAHLE: Now we have a predicament perhaps, but yesterday when Senator Clark was presiding he has a list of people that wanted to speak on the bill. I will go down that list and see if you still want to speak. Senator Schmit, do you wish to speak on the bill? Okay, go ahead.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, as Senator DeCamp said it would make interesting reading to go back and review the many, many pages of testimony in support of our local option city sales tax. I