

March 18, 1982

LB 816

CLERK: 22 ayes, 15 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Carsten's amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: The amendment to the committee amendment is adopted and now we are on the committee amendments. Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Now, Mr. President, I move that the committee amendments as amended be adopted.

SENATOR CLARK: Is there any discussion on the committee amendments as amended? Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, I didn't enter the discussion here before because I was getting some information. I cannot support this and one avenue that we haven't discussed is the amount of sales tax that our cities are getting from the rural areas. I discovered that Omaha is getting over \$1 million tax over and above from the farmers, from the rural areas, not from their city with their city option tax, just with their city option tax. So that tells me that they are getting a considerable amount of money from the rural areas and yet they want \$4 million more and that kind of hurts when I am going to lose \$90 thousand with this new formula plus giving them Lincoln and Omaha because of their city tax from the rural area and I just cannot accept this. What we need is a sales tax over the whole works and distribute it evenly. Maybe we should have adopted Senator Vickers' amendment the other day and had a city option tax in every city so we'd all be paying it but the farmers would be sold down the drain. But I had a little bill up here last year and that is where I got these figures from, so I know that this is a fact, that these figures are right and that we are losing that kind of money. So I just cannot support something like this. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Is there any further discussion on the committee amendments? If not, Senator Carsten, do you wish to close?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I want to first of all, compliment the urban senators for the support of this amendment even though in the case of Omaha they are going to lose a little money. I want to also say in my closing that this body in the last couple of years turned down a proposal that came as near to being equitable as anything that we have proposed with a little bit of population thrown in and it was close, yet it was turned down. As we move down through the years, and I'm speaking to the agricultural area, and I know that it is from that area that