

April 7, 1982

LB 928

Beutler amendment to the Warner amendment. All those in favor signify by voting aye, opposed nay.

CLERK: Senator Nichol voting yes.

SENATOR NICHOL: This will require 25 votes. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 3 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Beutler's amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL: The Beutler amendment is adopted. Now we are going back to the Warner amendment. Senator Fowler, you had your light on.

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. President, I rise to support the Warner amendment and I do so not for partisan motives but because I think, in fact, it is what should be done for the State of Nebraska in this situation. Now there has been a temptation to talk about things like the revenue chart I handed out, the general fund balance, the roller-coaster that looks kind of like the silhouette of the Capitol, the years of general fund balance and how the \$190 million that was there 18 months ago has dropped to what looks like a negative 30. There has been a temptation to talk about the end of the session last year when the Governor appears to have signed more A bills than funds available to pay for them. There has been a temptation to talk about the Department of Revenue projection book put together last year but never released because it was felt by Don Stenberg that \$23 million needed to be added to it to inflate revenue projections. And there has been temptations to talk about Tax Commissioner Herrington not convening the Board of Equalization last fall to adjust rates because of federal tax changes, or the denials of the administration that there is anything wrong with the sales tax projections when questions were raised about those projections during the special session, or perhaps to talk about how the current Tax Commissioner when February inquiries were made as to whether he was confident of the projections with regards to refunds this year, whether in fact he shouldn't look at those again and he said, I don't see any real problem right now with those. Or a temptation to talk about how when Senator Beutler, Burrows and I had a resolution in in March suggesting an emergency meeting of the Board of Equalization to adjust tax rates, we were assured there would be no cash flow problems in the State of Nebraska till October. I could talk about the Three Horsemen of The Apocalypse, Knight, Leuenberger and Bare, out in the rotunda this last week bringing the