

April 7, 1982

LB 591

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Landis, would you respond?

SENATOR LANDIS: You bet.

SENATOR KOCH: Senator Landis, are the Class I cities still in this bill?

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes, they are.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you. That is enough for me. I won't vote for a half cent for Nebraska as long as they are in there.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I didn't happen to be here this morning but I picked up some of the, I guess the discussion that took place while I was gone and I know that the arguments that are voiced by Senator Kahle and the concerns expressed by Senator Koch are felt by many of us. For four years now I have proposed a statewide sales tax and a revenue sharing basis for all the cities, counties and schools in the state. I think it is the only equitable way to go. I know it is not an easy solution. I know it is one which requires this body to sit down and face the issue realistically but for as long as I have been here we have been putting another patch on the quilt, another shingle on the roof. That is exactly what we are doing now. We are going to help the City of Lincoln and I certainly am not opposed, Senator Landis, to doing that. I know that the city has their problems but you can be assured that every single city and county in the state are going to have problems. Senator Goodrich brought tears to my eyes with his concern for those seven outstate cities that were going to lose some money under that amendment previously proposed, he thought, the Chambers amendment. He doesn't seem to have the same concern for the two-thirds of the counties, the innumerable cities, school districts that are going to lose a lot of funds under LB 816. Those same governing bodies are going to have the same problems that they have here in the City of Lincoln. This Legislature has the authority and it has the responsibility to attempt to try to assist them in resolving that problem. So long as you get more than, there's more than 25 of us have resolved the problems for our local subdivisions, then for all practical purposes, Senator Goodrich, the problem goes away. Now I don't think that is responsible legislating. I sat in this seat a number of years ago when the additional one-half cent was vetoed by Governor Exon for the City of Omaha and because I thought I was doing the responsible thing because I was assured, reassured and promised with tears in the eyes of I don't know how many councilmen and the mayor that it would only be a short term

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