

April 13, 1982

LB 816

CLERK: 14 ayes, 13 nays, Mr. President to cease debate.

SENATOR CLARK: Debate has not ceased. Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the body. I rise to oppose Senator Kahle's amendment. To help you refresh your memory I was one of those who supported LB 518 and I still have no regrets. The only regret I have is the fact this body has not seen fit over the past several years to arrive at a formula which could be fair to all sectors involved. So what we are seeing now is a standoff as we have seen in the past couple years. This may be a momentary solution. But, the point I want to make is that for us to try to come back now and place 10% of the tangible property, whatever it might be back on the tax rolls is not in the best interest of those we once thought should be exempt and I believe we should exempt them still. In my mind that kind of a tax was always a liar's tax. It could never be traced or audited to be fair and effective to all people. I know how Senator Kahle feels about this issue. Presently he is on the losing side. But I have been on the losing side the last couple of years and I have been willing to put up with that but I'm hopeful that this 816, as we see it now, will pass. If we see fit to look at it again next year and a formula which we feel can be. . . where a group of us can sit down and derive a fair and equitable formula then I think many of us will accept it. I recall several years ago we got in this issue when we were talking about some population, some evaluation, etc. as being the fairest formula but that time the people that had the blue chips prevailed. Senator Schmit today was talking about that and I think it is unfortunate. I have never been one, since I have been here, who has paid the taxes, where it is going. I have tried to stay out of that issue. But obviously now, there is a time if you don't pay attention when you should and be fair and equitable, some day it may come back to haunt you. I can not support Senator Kahle's amendment. It is not fair this time to do it at all. But I would hope in the meantime we can resolve this sometime between now and next year there may be some cooler heads prevail. There may be some ways in which we can arrive at a fair and equitable formula. Right now, it is obvious that we are polarized and it is obvious that we are going to stay that way. So I reject Senator Kahle's amendment, hope we get on with the bill 816 as it is.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Hefner.

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