

SENATOR LAMB: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, now before everybody gets bent out of shape or thinks anybody is retaliating or doing anything, that is not the case. I wish you would listen. I am kind of halfway serious, in fact, real serious. 816 is pretty obviously going to go ahead. Now 816 makes a major and fundamental change in the tax system. It takes a good portion of the state's tax base, sales and income tax, and puts it into the very areas, the very areas, Omaha, Lincoln, some of the primary class cities, that were needing this additional increase in their sales tax because they lack funds. That was the reason for it. And remember we gave Omaha the increase because of the emergency nature and because they didn't have enough money. Now Omaha is getting under 816 and they are related, let's face it, they are getting a mass of additional dollars, \$6 million additional. If you want to restore the tax base of the state like you all claimed and go back to that basically 1% rather than having it creep up, then you will do two things. First of all, you will not go ahead and extend it to a whole bunch of new cities and, second, you will send a signal to Omaha that because of the change of the tax system they have approximately one year, in other words, until next year, to do something. Now you say, well this bill can't pass if you return it. That is correct. So you've accomplished your two purposes. You have sent the signal to Omaha that we are changing the tax system and we are going to return to an absolute 1%, particularly in light of the additional funds they now have to meet those emergency problems and they have a year to phase it in. I think it is a reasonable amendment and I think if you are serious about wanting to hold onto the state tax base it is a legitimate approach. I repeat again, it sends a signal and says you've got about a year, that is the mood of the Legislature, and it says to all the other cities, with the change of the overall tax system we are accomplishing this year and probably more next year, it is time to start restoring the state tax base. That is all it does and I think maybe this is a reasonable approach.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I am going to work real hard at adopting Senator Kahle's resolution for the day and that is not to get angry but I do want to say that this is a lot of fun. It is more fun for me than it is probably for the Lincoln senators but this is a lot of fun to play with 591. I had some problems with 591 but they are slowly being resolved because of the games that are being played. But, Senator DeCamp, one of