

hopefully the signal that was sent back in 1986, albeit I didn't agree with it at that time, ought to be consistent with this signal and we ought to pass this bill, and hopefully in the future, and I am very concerned about this, in the future as we review revenue policies that will support the expenditures of the State of Nebraska, we should try to look back and read the record and then go forward from that and not reverse the policies which we looked upon in 1987 or 1988 or 1989. So, therefore, I would ask you once again to vote to advance LB 209.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I also rise to support this bill. I just want to point out that this is also a bill that will help small companies, not just large companies. My local independent at Stanton, they would have to pay approximately \$100,000 in tax a year, and so it is also very important to small companies, not just large companies. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I rise in support of LB 209 but probably not with as much enthusiasm as Senator Ashford and Senator Schmit do but believe that the bill as it was brought before the Revenue Committee was one that needed to be addressed and needed to be addressed quickly. So the bill was heard early. It was advanced to the floor and you have it before you. The issue goes back a couple of years to when the Revenue Department determined that they felt they did have the authority to tax access charges, and since then, the issue has been addressed over the table, over the board room table, and even with threats of going into the courts. The bill was brought in by Senator Ashford and Senator Schmit and others to, basically, allow the Legislature to have the say, as we should, in what was the intent of legislation that was passed, not in 1986, but a number of years ago. Many of the statutes that deal with regulation of the telephone industry, what we now call communications industry, go back a number of years, not just 10 or 15, but many of them go back 20 and 40 years. I think that it is important that we take a look as we do develop revenue policy at industries that have come into full bloom, if you will, over the last couple of years. The telemarketing industry is one that Senator Hefner mentioned. It is one where we had a testifier come up and said that should we apply this