

administrative costs, therefore, in essence, it is a lie. We are collecting money for purposes of which we will spend it elsewhere, and we want to maintain this lie. And your bill was a good one because it abolished that lie and it, basically, said the cities and municipalities are going to have to be up front with the people and we are going to have to say, now we don't need that funds, we did need it for administrative purposes, we were taking it in false pretenses. We were using the money over here, therefore, since you have taken the money away from us, we are going to have to tax you in another legitimate form and tell you exactly where the money is going to go. That is what your original bill, 775, did. Now what we are saying is we are going to have a two-tiered approach again, philosophically. We are saying under 775, the committee amendments, that the City of Omaha is now going to say to its people, you are right, we didn't need the money, there are no administrative costs, and so, thus, it should go back to the charities, back to the people in those particular organizations, but the rest of the state, who also is under the same categories have not needed the money, they are going to continue to maintain those funds. Now I understand there is a lot of concern that if the committee amendments were not agreed to and all cities and municipalities were, indeed, kept barred from obtaining the funds that the League of Municipalities would become so unglued that every county treasurer in every county in the State of Nebraska would be writing crazily their senators and there would be so much opposition to this that the bill would die, and I understand that political reality. So let's limit, if we can, let's have some limitations here, we're going to help 92 county clerks, or, should be, county treasurers from not writing, and we will just keep the larger one, Omaha, and, philosophically, I have a problem with that and, quite honestly, Senator Beck, with those two things, I am not sure what I am going to do on the bill at this point.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: But I think that would be a clarification of the two issues that are at hand. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, further discussion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, and members of the Legislature,