

bill. (Haberman amendment appears on page 1374 of the
Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Is this on the amendment?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Yes, on your amendment to the bill.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, Senator Labeledz, Senator Schmit, Senator Hannibal, Senator Lynch, Senator Chizek, this amendment extends a sales tax exemption to natural resources district. At the present time natural resources districts are the only governmental agency that pay the sales tax on their purchases. The state doesn't pay it, the county doesn't pay it, the city doesn't pay it, the fire departments don't pay it, irrigation districts don't pay it, public power don't pay it, public schools doesn't pay it and on and on and on. So what this amendment does is say that the NRDs won't have to pay the sales tax on their purchases also. Now what does this mean to some of the NRDs? Well to the Lower Platte South NRD in Lincoln, Nebraska, it would save them \$20,000 a year. The Pappio NRD in Omaha, it would save them \$15,000 a year. So you add all this together and this is property tax relief because you can go back to your NRDs or I'll do it for you and we'll say you don't have to pay the sales tax anymore, Lincoln NRD, therefore, you can take \$20,000 out of your budget. It's just real simple and I'm sure that they will be glad to accommodate you because you can raise enough fuss that they will listen to you. So all I'm asking for you to do is if we're going to give all of these state agencies the freedom of not paying sales tax on their purchases, and then if we're going to extend it to give it to a museum purchase of art in Omaha, I don't think it's any more than fair that we should give this to the natural resources districts also. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Lindsay, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Mr. President, I'd rise for a point of order. I would challenge the germaneness of the amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Would you care to make a statement?