

nation sees fit to charge a sales tax on the purchase of fine art for use in a not for profit museum such as the Joslyn in Omaha. It is a bill that has been before the Revenue Committee, been before the body prior to 1989 so it is not an issue that is new off the press so to speak. It has been here before. It advanced out of the committee based on the fact that the fine arts museum is there for the general public and it is there for everyone to use and to appreciate. Maybe there is a certain segment of society, Senator Chambers, as you pointed out, that might use it more than another, but it is there for everyone to use and as Senator Lindsay has pointed out in his statements, it is used extensively by the public schools system to educate young people to the benefits that the museum has to offer to the historical and cultural opportunities that are there. I think that Nebraska lags far behind other states in the aspect of not recognizing the importance of these kinds of contributions because what you are doing is you're taking and you're taxing contribution dollars.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: Because it takes contribution dollars to purchase these works of art and you're imposing a tax on them, a tax to the tune of \$200,000 that could be used much more readily and I think much more worthwhile in the area of more acquisition for the museum. So it only makes sense to me to vote down this motion to kill the bill and then move on to advance LB 705 on to Select File. The annual impact of 705, once the Joslyn purchase is finished, is approximately \$14,000 a year so it is no different than the exemption that we allowed previous for the state fairs that we granted earlier this session. I think that it makes sense for us to advance this bill on. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Labeledz, did you want to speak to the motion to indefinitely postpone? Thank you. Anyone else care to speak to the motion? Senators Ashford, Chambers and Moore and Pirsch.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Members, LB 705 is my priority bill and the reason that it is, I think relates to the way I look at this exemption. I don't look at it as a sales tax exemption. I think it's really inappropriate in many respects to do that. I think we have to start from the premise that this is a valuable acquisition for the State of Nebraska. The vehicle for making