

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, just so the record is totally clear, in addition to the eminent authority that had been quoted by Senator Landis as having said the state is not at risk, you will recall that I said the state was not at risk and that's all it's good for, my saying it's not at risk, you can add it to those authorities who have said it's not at risk. I did not want to bring this up because I do not want to hurt another bill but this Legislature is very likely to be voting on another bill, which I am supporting, where there is no legal responsibility for us to pay. And, gentlemen and ladies, we know from time to time we find ourselves in that situation. What I am telling you here today is that the opportunity for an obligation here far exceeds anything that we have undertaken in the past. The Constitution was of most concern about the obligation of the state in regard to debt; the opposition of the Governor and a number of other individuals in this state toward use of bonds for highway construction, well documented, with some justifiable reasons. Senator...as I said, Senator Landis understands it much better than I do, but, ladies and gentlemen, what I am saying here today is that notwithstanding the eminent authorities who have said we have no obligation, notwithstanding the addition of my feeble support for that point of view doesn't mean that at a time in the future something might happen that is going, as Senator Landis has said, going to entail some risk. I just do not like the manner in which it's being done. I may be, as Senator Scofield has said, back here next year supporting Senator Landis on his proposal. But, at this time, ladies and gentlemen, I don't believe I want to take that much risk and, therefore, now I ask permission to withdraw my proposal.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. The question now is, shall LB 311 pass with the emergency clause stricken? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: (Record vote read. See page 2696 of the Legislative Journal.) 25 ayes, 18 nays, 5 present and not voting, 1 excused and not voting, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Lb 311 passes without the emergency clause. May I introduce some guests, please, of Senator Pirsch. In the north balcony, we have 47 fourth graders from Benson West in Omaha and their teacher. Will you students and teacher please stand so we