

risk. One of the reasons that I did not vote for the income tax bill, frankly, is even though people were taxed unjustly, it seems to me that in my order of priorities anyway, that it wouldn't have hurt to ask those folks to have that wrong righted until we have righted the Commonwealth situation. That doesn't solve some of the other problems we face out there but that's one step that I chose to take. There is another bill coming up called the trailer bill, 525. It has some items in it that I opposed and I would still take them out if you gave me that option. You won't, and I'm going to suggest we go ahead and send that bill over there but, again, I'm not going to push the Governor to leave any of those things in there. It will be on her plate with everything else. But I really think Nebraska fell down in its responsibilities to regulate and we have an obligation to make this right and if we can't do it this year, I'll be with Senator Landis and others trying to make it right next year. I support the bracket motion.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Ashford, please.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. Shall debate close? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 30 ayes, 3 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate ceases. Senator Landis, to close.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I don't think I've had a tougher time on the floor that I can think of than this moment. I don't know what it would be if I had to reflect back because at the very moment I, too, think what a great session it has been to have this issue on Final Reading where it has never been before. How terrific to have just three days ago, the people of this body have their consciences moved and to advance the bill. But I tell you there is...there is a hard thing called a vote count and they keep taking our temperature every day a couple of times a day, see how we're doing and those vote counts change and they change for good reasons, not for whimsical reasons, not for lack of political moxie in some cases, but because we have to make choices. And, frankly, this bill has affected those choices