

February 19, 1992 LB 1008

PRESIDENT MOUL: Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We have ceased debate. The house remains under call, and now I will recognize Senator Chambers for closing.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I am not through with this bill by a long shot, and this is not the one that I will draw the line in the sand on and decide to require a roll call vote on every issue. I am going to let you all call the question and cease debate as you choose, but there will come another day during this session, there will be other days, and the irony about all of that is that I won't be standing alone, because while one side is going to be very angry, the other side is going to be gratified. We are going to have some very nicely divided issues before us, and this is one of the small ones. This is the peewee issue to a lot of people in the Legislature, but it is not to me. Those that you all want to talk about are going to be the peewee issue to me, because there are enough of you all to spat and fight to keep these discussions going for a good long time. But when I see the fire tending to die down, then I will be the stoker, and I will see if I can't do something to bring the flames back to the appropriate pitch, and I can't do that without help. But I think when those issues come up, I am going to have considerable help. On this one, I have an amendment that would require a vote of the people before this fee or tax could be assessed. Senator Horgan said if you don't like the way the city council votes, throw them out of office. That is what politicians who are incumbents always say. They always say that and know that that is not likely to happen. Senator Horgan knows it is not likely to happen. If he thought that would happen, he wouldn't have brought in the seat belt bill because the public having initiated an action to throw out the seat belt bill, he'd wonder if maybe some in Omaha would vote to throw him out of office because he is going against the will of the people. So that doesn't mean anything to him, to anybody else on this floor. It is one of those rhetorical flourishes that is engaged in, but the serious issue here was touched on by the questions that Senator Morrissey asked me. Neither he, I, or anybody on this floor can say exactly what percentage of that widow's mite which goes for property tax is going to go for the collection of the garbage from where she lives right now. I can't answer that question, and I don't believe anybody here can answer it. But