

February 19, 1992 LB 1008

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We have ceased debate and I will recognize Senator Haberman for closing.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Madam President and members of the body, a senator asked me, should we not leave this up to the city folks of Omaha, and I tried to answer that question to the best of my ability that it is our responsibility as Omaha has to come to us for the authority to levy a tax in an instance such as this. The amendment merely says that if and when a fee or a tax is placed on the citizens of Omaha to pick up their garbage, which is now being paid for with property tax, they are paying for it anyway, that if and when this fee or tax goes into effect, the amount of the fee or the tax that is added on to the citizens of Omaha, that amount shall be reduced in the mill levy and in the property taxes. It is a fair, fair amendment. Now I wouldn't say that Omaha would literally take these \$8 million in fees or tax and not lower the property tax, I wouldn't accuse them of doing that, although I have seen it in the past. So this merely says, and the amendment is very, very simple, if they raise 8 million, 5 million, 12 million, 15 million, whatever they raise to pick up the garbage on a fee or a tax on the people, the property tax shall be lowered, the mill levy, or whatever, shall be lowered to cover that fee. The citizens should not be taxed twice for the same service. That is double taxation. That is not fair. So with that explanation, Madam Chairman, I would like to ask the body to support the amendment, which takes care of the double taxing of the citizens of Omaha. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Haberman. The house is under call. We are still waiting for several senators. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Ask for a roll call vote, reverse order is fine.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We are still waiting for Senators Lynch and Rogers. Do you wish to continue to wait, Senator Haberman?

SENATOR HABERMAN: No, vote.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Okay, we will proceed with roll call vote in