

March 5, 1992

LB 829, 1063, 1120

think that's what we need to do, if we're going to have good tax policy. By putting Nebraska businesses at an unfair advantage with the surrounding states is not good for Nebraska business, whether it's agriculture or business. The voters are not going to approve a constitutional amendment that is not going to help Nebraska tax problems. It's going to help LB 775 companies, but it's not going to help the Nebraska business people, Nebraska agriculture that didn't use LB 775. I just think that LB 1063, there has to be a better way that we can come up with a tax solution, so I urge you to indefinitely postpone. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Madam President, members, I'll be brief, try to be low key. But I...I think we have to...it's an over...it's a cliché, we have to face reality. And I'm just simply going to say I oppose indefinitely postponing 1063, particularly at this point. If nothing else, I think we need to keep the vehicle here. If my memory is correct, we've been working on this specific issue for about a year. We passed 829 about a year ago, not quite, I think it was in May, in order to buy some time, and here we are, a year later, and evidently we haven't bought enough time, because we still don't have the solution. I know many of you are saying we'll take it all off. LB 1123...or 1120, excuse me, 1120 does take it all off, but we can't agree on how to replace it. Many of you are saying let it all go back on. When it all goes back on then you s...I truly believe that will decimate many of the rural enterprises, as well as hurt in the cities all across the state. And whether you go from Falls City, to Imperial, to Gordon, to Harrison, back to South Sioux City, back down to Plattsmouth it's going to hurt those towns relatively more than it is the larger cities. Inventory, to me, is not acceptable at all, and it will be particularly hard on the cattle feeding industry, which is a very valuable industry in this state. So then you say, well, you know really no one really intends on putting it all back on, we'll do something in emergency and we'll change it and we'll go the 829 route. But we can't agree on what that replacement is. And we're right back to 1120. And we can't agree on how to replace it. And the circle is going, and that's exactly the arguments I hear today, we're going in a circle. We've had a test vote, I'd call it, on sales and income tax which wasn't too far from what I want and many of you want, combination sales and income tax. But it didn't have the votes. And I think there