

March 11, 1992

LB 1120

LR 219

an option. And I think it is wrong and I do not want to be part of a plot or scheme that puts a gun to the head of the voters of the State of Nebraska saying that you must vote for this constitutional amendment or it all goes back on the tax rolls, because that's the only option they have. I argue you don't need to change the Constitution to exempt it all, but let's make sure. The question, very simply, will be for or against, shall we exempt all personal property, or shall we do this new depreciated method of taxation? Now, obviously, for those opponents of LB 1120 that shouldn't be too tough because if it's as bad and the voters are going to hate it as much as you've always said they're going to hate it anyway, what are you worried about? What are you afraid of? They're going to vote it out. And they'll vote for LR 219 as far as some are going to say, well, it doesn't say how much funding mechanism is in there. Come on, we debated it for months that if you exempt it all, it's going to cost money, and we should come back in a special session after if that's what happens and find a way to replace some revenue. And if we're not, that's one more reason why people shouldn't vote for it. It's one of those things that if members of the body, if the lobby and if the administration is serious about getting 40 votes, they ought to start thinking about doing something like this to get the votes necessary to put it on the ballot in May. Maybe not all the people are serious about getting 40 votes. Maybe there are those that want it all to go back on. Maybe there are those that just want to make sure that we don't get 40 votes, they can say, well, the Legislature, see those bums in there, they screwed up again, they can't manage...they couldn't manage a house of ill repute in an army base. It's one of those things that, you know, I don't know what everybody's motives are but if your motives is to try and get 40 votes, I'm not going to vote against the CA for trying to get more for agriculture. That's not my flaw with it at all and I have some very personal convictions. It's the wrong tax policy at the wrong time. It's a poorly drafted constitutional amendment. It should not be passed by the voters of the State of Nebraska. Those are the reasons I have voted against LR 219. Certainly today I will vote against LR 219 and I will tell the people in the State of Nebraska they should vote against LR 219. What's wrong with giving the voters a chance, particularly when the only other alternative they may have is not vote until November, the business community is up in arms. You know, let's have it in May, give the voters an option out there, do some things, give me the ability to vote with a clear conscience for LR 219 because it's very clear what the voters