

March 12, 1992

LB 1063
LR 219

SPEAKER BAACK: Yes, Madam President and colleagues, as I did yesterday, I filed a motion to suspend the rules and vote on LR 219 without further debate. I felt that I needed to do the same thing on this one and I did need to do the same thing on this one, otherwise we would have had 30 amendments this morning. Senator Schmit filed about 30 amendments this morning. He withdrew some of them, but he filed about 30 of them this morning and they were the same kinds of amendments that we considered on Select File. For anyone to get up and argue that we haven't had substantial debate on this bill is absurd. We've had many hours of debate on this bill. It is major tax policy, there's no doubt about that, but I think it's time that we move forward. We do have deadlines that we have to meet and today is one of the deadlines that we need to meet if we want to put something on the ballot in May. I put this motion up. I don't plan to vote to cease debate on this motion. I think that people...I never vote to cease debate. I think that people have a chance now to air their feelings again on 1063 and we'll give them that opportunity to do it on this motion, but had I not filed this motion we would have been here for a lot longer today. There's no doubt about that. So, with that, I would urge you to suspend the rules and allow us to do the Final Reading of LB 1063. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Speaker Baack. Senator Schmit, followed by Senators Robinson and Robak. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Madam Chairman and members, it's always convenient to use the rules when it works in your favor. It's an abomination to use the rules when it does not work in your favor. The system has to work when it is working in favor of the majority. The system does not have to work if the majority does not want it to work. This bill is the most important bill that has been passed by this Legislature in many years. This bill will have an adverse impact for many, many years upon the entire State of Nebraska. This bill will cause this Legislature tremendous problems in the months and years to come. Those who have not read the bill, and that would probably constitute several persons in this body, will be surprised when the Final Reading has been accomplished and they discover the total impact. My good friend Senator Schrock, who has stood up and said, well, we don't tax the water in liquid fertilizer, well, then what do we tax? Do we tax just the nitrogen? Do we tax the 32 percent nitrogen and not tax the 68 percent water? If