

November 10, 1992 LB 1

for funds casts wildly and with indiscretion, Senator Hall. But, nonetheless, I do believe that we ought to take a look. We had about, at one time the alfalfa dehydrating industry was a major industry in the Platte Valley, reached from my area of the state into...clear to Scottsbluff. Now in this last year I think we've dropped off 12 or 15 of those plants. We have seen the taxes on a small plant go from \$1,000 to \$12,000 in the last year. I think that's inequitable. I don't think this Legislature ever intended, and I know that's a very much overused phrase, ever intended to single out one small industry like we did and make them the recipient or...or make them bear the burden of the energy tax just because they are high energy users. And I wouldn't say that the 100,000 and the \$200 per employee was specifically directed toward Nucor but, as I recall, those were the numbers that were kicked about. And so I will say this very frankly, we asked for, and I wish Senator Schrock was here, we asked for a fiscal note. It should not be the burden of the Legislature or the legislators to have to draw that if, in fact, the Fiscal Office cannot do that. I think they ought to be able to come up with some kind of a figure. And I can come up with one, if you want one. I've given you one which I think is less than a quarter of a million dollars. And I think it's very close to an accurate figure. Now that amount of money isn't large in the entire scope of things. If I were a dealer, like some people accuse me of being, Senator Hall, I'd trade you one vote for the other. But far be it from me at this late stage that I start to deal. The facts are that I think it's a fair amendment. And at some point in time on this floor we do usually revert back to a sense of equity. I think it's an equitable amendment. I think it deserves your support. And, as I said, even Senator Hall is not wildly enthusiastic in his opposition. So I would ask you to vote your conscience and give it a try. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. We will now vote on the Schmit amendment to LB 1. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Call of the house, please.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We have a request for call of the house. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 21 ayes, 0 nays to go under call, Madam President.