

November 11, 1992 LB 1

of the other bills that have been enacted. The World-Herald, last week, I believe on Sunday, and I didn't see the paper, I was down with the flu. Good thing I didn't read the paper, I would have felt worse. But it pointed out what Senator Tim Hall and Dan Lynch pointed out all through the regular session, home owners in Lincoln and Omaha picked up a big part of the burden. But I'm going to read this. Said, Nelson stand commendable. And I commended the Governor last night for his willingness to take leadership. I really believe that notwithstanding the fact that I have disagreed with the Governor many times on his positions on taxes, the Governor took a position because this body was not able to craft the kind of tax policy that we ought to have worked on. I understand that there are differing points of view, and there always will be. But I cannot let this editorial headline go by. State efforts to help farmers a big reason bill is needed, direct lie, direct lie. And I do not say that very often, but the facts are that this is a deliberate attempt to continue the deception that has been perpetrated for years, and year, and years. We talked about the costs of LB 829 being assessed back to those who benefitted. I want to point out that farmers did not benefit from the take-off, total take-off of the personal property tax. We have taken all of the taxes off personal property prior to that time. Pointed out also that there was a trap in 829, and it was laid deliberately and with some, I suppose, some expertise. We said we're going to take all the taxes off personal property in 1991, and then we reimpose all of the personal property taxes in '92. The farmers in this body who bought that apparently were not aware of the fact that the farmers did not gain anything by the total removal of the tax from personal property. What we did do, we placed ourselves in a really tight trap by buying the portion of the bill that put all of the taxes back on, because then, and Senator Warner repeated on the floor a thousand times, he said, you're not talking about what happens if, that has already happened as of January 1, 1992 all personal property taxes are back in place. And so some of my colleagues here with a little less experience said well, we've got a whole three or four months time, we're going to work this out. Ladies and gentlemen, once that 829 was passed in 1992, January 1 was here, our negotiating ability was gone. We had no ability to negotiate because we were once again in the jaws of death. And if we didn't have the votes to keep the thing off, how could we get 25 votes to take it off? And our urban colleagues have us by the short hair, and no reason, really, to give any ground. I don't blame them, I don't blame them one bit. But the problem