

January 16, 1996 LR 297

variety of options that might be available, and I am sure the Government Committee, as they have over the fall, will be looking at all those options. But with that, I would support Senator Jones' amendment as one which would clarify that that option is available as well as the elimination.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Robinson, your light is on, do you wish to speak? Senator Maurstad, to speak to the Jones amendment. Seeing no further lights, Senator Jones to close on his amendment.

SENATOR JONES: I will waive.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Closing is waived. The question before the body is the adoption of the Jones amendment to Legislative Resolution 297. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the adoption of Senator Jones's amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Jones amendment is adopted. We return to a discussion of LR 297. Senator Coordsen, followed by Senator Schellpeper, Wesely, Crosby, and Maurstad.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. I rise simply this morning to express my support for an interest and involvement with the process that is represented in a relatively brief fashion by LR 297. Restructuring of our tax policy as a revenue systems in Nebraska is something that historically the Legislature has been involved in finding fair and equitable ways of supporting the service of government at all levels, and, certainly, there is an established pattern going back at least the last three decades of the Legislature being actively involved, sometimes fruitlessly, but, nonetheless, with the best of intentions. This morning, with LR 297, we are again standing on the brink of a waterfall, I think. The committee has met a number of times during the interim and a general process was established that involves all of those committees and should indicate to the public the complexities of our system in Nebraska supporting government services. Forty-nine members of the body, we have more opinions than that. We have 49 opinions on revenue systems as they relate to us personally, each of us, and those are good