

February 15, 1996 LB 1050

CLERK: Senator Wickersham would move to amend the...this portion of the committee amendments. (Read FA442 as found on page 814 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Wickersham. to open on your amendment.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: All right. Thank you, Mr. Clerk, Madam President. This is an amendment that addresses the issue that I raised with Senator Bohlke. If the intent is to cap at a dollar amount the amount of rebate that was distributed in the first year that LB 1059 was fully implemented this amendment doesn't. (LB) 1059 was not fully implemented until '92-93, at least as far as the income tax rebate was concerned. The first year the income tax rate was not increased to the full 1059 increase, because it came in, in the middle of the year. And there was no practical way, as I understand it, to adjust withholding for people all across the state of Nebraska, so less was collected than what 1059 would have really called for; '92-93 was the first year that we really reflect the valid numbers for a fully implemented 1059, at least that's my understanding. Maybe Senator Bohlke can advise me differently and advise you differently, but that is certainly my understanding. The difference in dollars, for those of you who seem to like dollars, is the difference between about \$83.3 million and a little over \$102 million. But that's the issue. If we're going to vote for a dollar amount, that is the dollar amount that would have been distributed the first year that 1059 was fully effective, my amendment does that and I would ask your support.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Robinson, your light was on, would you like to speak to this amendment? Senator Bohlke. You're waiving off? Senator Wickersham, there are no further lights, would you... Senator Bohlke. Senator Bernard-Stevens, on the Wickersham amendment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: This is a role that I serve so well. There's some discussions that are taking place and things may be able to be accomplished, and so who do they turn to, to fill the time? Who do you call? DBS, that's who you call. (Laughter) So, if anything, you know I do serve a function, albeit small, in the legislative process. What Senator Wickersham is trying to do is really simply a policy question of what the intent. The amendment does not change the intent of the bill. What Senator Wickersham is referring to is the first year of 1059