

April 11, 1996

LB 1114, 1177

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read record vote. See pages 2031-32 of the Legislative Journal.) Vote is 36 ayes, 12 nays, 1 present not voting, 1 excused and not voting.

SENATOR COORDSEN: LB 1114 passes. Next bill, LB 1177, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, the first motion I have on this bill is from Senator Wesely. He would move to return the bill to Select File for a specific amendment, to strike the enacting clause.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Wesely, on your motion to return.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I offer this motion because I thought a discussion about the bill would be in order at this time, and I know that there has been previously two chances to debate the bill. But I must say that I, for one, did not give it very careful attention and, after having a chance to review it, in light of the Final Reading today, I thought it would be important to ask a few questions and make a few points and allow Senator Warner to discuss the bill further before we took final action on the measure. I will indicate at this time, and I will explain as I go through my comments, that I will not take this to a vote and ask you to actually return the bill and strike the enacting clause. But I will leave it up for a chance for a discussion and would expect...and appreciate Senator Warner's comments about my concerns. First off, the bill is a...calls for a \$5 million reduction in General Fund revenues. Now the bill takes effect two years from now, and deals with an equalization formula for cities, and that is the initial and primary purpose of the bill, but it has other features as well. Included in that equalization effort is a reduction in General Fund that would send \$5 million now going to the state to the cities in the equalization formula that we have. And obviously a \$5 million impact on revenues is something we should consider, and I didn't remember in the discussions about that earlier on the bill that point being made. But upon further reflection, I should also indicate that that \$5 million in that issue is not new to me or to this Legislature. In fact, when Senator...now Senator, former Governor Kerrey was in office, I carried a bill and passed a bill to repeal the collection...or reduce the collection fee for cities' sales taxes and return that money