

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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March 8, 2000 LB 171

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time. Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Wickersham, you're recognized to close on the committee amendments to LB 171.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. We have already begun the discussion of what...of I think the underlying policy principles are on the bill if the committee amendments are adopted. As I understand it, Senator Kristensen, the principal introducer, supports the committee amendments. They substantially restrict the bill from the way it was introduced. They would certainly reduce the cost of the bill. They restrict the bill to broadcast television; would not include radio broadcasters and the benefits converted from a straight sales tax exemption to a sales tax rebate proposal, and cause the program to end or to be limited to purchases that occur before December 31st, year 2003. I would certainly hope that you support the committee amendments. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. The question is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 171. Those in favor vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 36 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The committee amendments are adopted. For debate on the advancement of LB 171, Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: I'm sorry, Mr. President. Thank you. Members of the body, I now rise in opposition to the bill. The policy choice that this bill confronts us with is a, albeit a limited sales tax benefit, I'll characterize it as a benefit because it's not an exemption, a limited sales tax benefit for a limited group of businesses in the state of Nebraska who are confronted with a federal mandate, you ask yourself, well, how can...how can he be so cold-hearted, how can he be so cold-hearted. This is a federal mandate and if these companies don't comply with a federal mandate they're out of business. Well, how many other federal mandates do you know about? Do you think the trucking industry has any federal mandates? Has the