

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 27, 2003

LB 283

technical amendment. Under the premise that we vote to make the legislation better, I would support the technical amendment. But I cannot risk having that confused with any support for Senator Synowiecki's motion, AM2104, which I rise in opposition to. We have been down this road. We have been down this road more than once. We have made our decision. We have balanced our books. And now, thinking that we may have some other source of revenue, which as speaker after speaker have told you, we will need. We have decreasing revenues. The projections that are reported are going to be less than that which was anticipated. This is not a time for everybody to start making adjustments based on the anticipated largess of the federal government, when we even have an uncertainty as to what that tax cut is going to do to us. I understand the concerns. I think there has been good and substantive and extensive debate. The fact of the matter is, this cannot be the end of the world. I recognize that we have to be sensitive to each individual's legislative districts. But it cannot be the end of the world for the entirety of the state of Nebraska, which is what we're about here, because it is a majority of the states that do it, and we have surrounding states that are doing it. And as I explained to somebody who was discussion this with me on the telephone yesterday, you know, it does raise \$55 million. That may give you some indication of a vibrant aspect and sector of our Nebraska economy which is not contributing in this way to our base. And the reason that other states are taxing it is because it is vibrant and dynamic and significant. And that's why it's contributing \$55 million a biennium in revenue. And so while I'm understanding of the arguments against it, I think that this is a base broadening that is absolutely required. And I urge that while we adopt Senator Synowiecki's floor amendment, that we resist and defeat his amendment to LB 283. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Synowiecki, there are no further lights on the amendment to the amendment, and so you'd be recognized to close on FA1394.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Mr. Speaker, I'll be very brief. I'll just request adoption of FA1394, and will see if there's any additional discussion on the underlying amendment, AM2104. Again, this is...we kind of copied off of Senator Beutler's