

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

May 17, 2005

LB 500

does not go to the state. So you're reducing the amount...

SENATOR BAKER: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...of sales tax revenue to the state by enacting this bill into law, if that's what you choose to do, and I hope it is not what this body chooses to do. I don't know that I can say anything to persuade somebody not to support this bill if that person's mind is made up to support it. But if there are any who are having second thoughts or are unsure, then I hope I can tip them toward the "no" column, and those who are "no," are in the "no" column, I hope they will stay there. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Janssen, you're recognized to speak.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Baker, members of the Legislature. Senator Chambers, you're exactly right. We're starting down a slippery slope here when we start talking about retail in this state. All the tax incentives that we've had in the past have been for ethanol plants. That comes to my mind because we were just discussing them. Yeah, I just cannot see why we are going to open the door for retail in this state, you know? And I don't care if it's Cabela's or if it's Senator Cunningham's...a competitor that wants to come in and get into business against Senator Cunningham in a town like Wausa. There's no difference. If someone wants to come in and build a establishment in Wausa, Nebraska, a grocery store, it's a retail outlet. And if that person can come down here and ask...and what's the difference whether it's a large company or a small one? They can come down here and ask us to get 75 percent of the sales tax generated in that place of business for, say, five years to help defray the costs of establishing something that is going to be an unfair playing field, you might say, with Senator Cunningham. That is just not right. And if we open that door, if we open that door one crack, that's what's going to happen. Who's going to be next? And how can someone compete when they are recouping 75 cents out of every \$1 that they get from sales tax for a period of years? Why wouldn't someone go to that establishment and buy their merchandise? You know, it's just