

February 5, 1976

I think it's important that we do let the congressional delegation know of our concerns. The League of Municipalities, the Nebraska County Officials, the Governor's office all support this program.

You're going to hear this morning from the Dean of the Legislature about a resolution being introduced here on the early days of our legislative session. We were requesting of the government certain things, certain requests to change our Constitution, our national Constitution ... not to do this. Until such time, if this ever does occur, we must continue on in this way. Therefore, I move for the adoption of the Resolution 117.

CLERK: Mr. President, there's a motion on the desk to amend LR 117. (Read amendment offered by Senator Bereuter found on page 569 of the Journal).

PRESIDENT: Senator Bereuter.

SENATOR BEREUTER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. This is an attempt at a friendly amendment to Senator Burbach's excellent resolution. I have talked to him previously about it. What's important, I think, is that we let our congressional delegation know as well that revenue sharing is important to the states. I think this is particularly important since two of our five congressional delegates, I will not name them, have not been in favor of the state government in sharing in the revenue program.

When I was in Washington, National Conference of State Legislators, in December the lady heading the revenue sharing program for the federal government expressed here amazement at the fact that states, in particular localities to some extent, had not expressed any support for the federal revenue sharing on a formal basis, only on an informal basis. The Fiscal Analyst's office has just prepared some information for the members of the Appropriations Committee today pointing out the following: any of you that want to build something this year or get appropriations for capital construction please listen. If we take only the Governor's proposals for capital construction and we take those proposals offered by members of the Legislature through individual bills we will not have enough money in the cigarette tax fund and the revenue sharing fund for next year to finance even those proposals that are already before us. Revenue sharing right now brings in between \$12 and \$13 million a year to state government that stays right here. Most of that money has been used for school aid or for construction. Therefore, I think it's really very essential that we let our congressional delegation know, and Congress in general, that this state at least feels we must have federal revenue sharing if the political subdivisions are also to share in it. This is the purpose for my amendment. I propose that you adopt the amendment to Senator Burbach's resolution 117. Thank you.