

February 11, 1983

LB 114

on January 11th. It was referred to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee. The bill was advanced to General File, Mr. President. I have no amendments to the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, this is simply a continuation of the lodging tax. It has proved very beneficial to the state. It has been one of the mainstays of the industry as was pointed out at the hearing. I would move advancement of the bill.

SENATOR CLARK PRESIDING

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Goll, did you want to be...no discussion on the bill. Did you move the bill? Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, I just woke up, I think. Was this a motion to advance LB 114?

SENATOR CLARK: Yes.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, I don't think that I can sit here and let this bill advance without a little bit of discussion, at least. The fact of the matter is I guess and I think we are going to prove it here is that sunset provisions on bills are really rather redundant and really rather unnecessary, especially if it is a bill that creates a tax. I think we are proving once again that whenever we create a tax it stays there and it is there forever no matter what kind of nice language we put on it at the outset of the creation of that tax that it is only going to be for a certain period of years and we are going to take a look at it again and all that sort of nice language and nice thoughts. I thought this was a bad idea when we did it a few years ago and I still think it is a bad idea. It is a tax to benefit in my opinion a specific group of people paid for by everybody including a lot of Nebraskans to promote tourism within this state. Now as I indicated when this bill was going through earlier, it is almost like having a tax on everybody that eats beef in order to promote the product for those of us that raise it, and I don't think that that would go over too good. You know, we have got a bill in here this year to put a check-off program on the producers, but in this instance for this particular use it is on the users, not the producers, and I object to that. I have objected to it all along and I am still going to object to it. So I am going to vote against the passage of LB 114, simply because I believe that that tax was wrong when we instigated