

May 3, 1983

LB 59

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Newell, would you respond, please.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Senator Newell, do you feel that this amendment, if adopted, would be attractive to attracting industry to the State of Nebraska?

SENATOR NEWELL: Senator Haberman, I doubt very much if our corporate income tax rates are a major consideration for any corporation that may be coming to the State of Nebraska or looking at the State of Nebraska for either an expansion or a relocation of a plant. So the answer very simply, Senator Haberman, is I doubt and I disagree with the contention that....(interruption.)

SENATOR HABERMAN: Senator Newell, wait a minute. Your answer I presume is no.

SENATOR NEWELL: It is pretty close to no.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well I am going to have to disagree because we've got a big push on to attract industry. Industry looks at taxes. They look at locations. They look at a lot of things and I kind of feel maybe this is a pretty good amendment because if we get the industry they are going to promote more jobs, the people are going to spend more money. This is going to make the economy turn faster. This is going to make more sales tax money come in. This is going to make more income tax money come in and this is going to help the economy. So I would have to say that maybe Senator Hefner should be commended for having the courage to stand up here and put this amendment in because corporations do look at their taxes just like you do and I do and the rest of the people so I would have to say I support Senator Hefner. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I oppose the Hefner amendment. I live in Nebraska because I like the life here, because I like the services that are here, because I like the people. It is not because of the tax structure that I am located in Lincoln, Nebraska. The same thing is true for businesses. If you take a listing, as one consulting group did, of the factors listed by 150 major corporations for their locational decisions you will find that taxes were not among those cited by 95% of the businesses. Even in the state where you are looking at people who are responding to questionnaires, not actually reviewing the decisions they made but responding to questionnaires, the listing of tax structure is eighth. Ahead of it are all the more important market factors of labor,