

February 21, 1984

LB 945

money to do that. This is the year we ought to, in fact, do that, and LB 945 is the vehicle to do that. I would urge this body to recognize the inequities of our tax law, the injustices that are there...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR NEWELL: ...and to also make a policy decision which we can justify to our constituents. We can do that one or the other way. Today I ask you to vote for 945 to exempt utilities from residential consumers. And if you vote no on this proposal, it will be my assumption, and I think it ought to be our message that it is our intent to add the tax to commercial and business to draw that tax line fairly. If you vote in favor of 945, you are simply saying that you recognize inequity and that you are going to provide that exemption to all, the same exemption that business and commercial users have today. With that, I urge this Legislature to make the correct policy choice to straighten out our tax laws and to bring 945 to the floor notwithstanding the committee's action and provide an exemption for the average Nebraska taxpayer and to create fairness in our tax system.

PRESIDENT: The motion is to place LB 945 on General File notwithstanding the negative action of the Revenue Committee. 30 votes are required. All those in favor of the motion vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all recorded your vote? Have you recorded your vote on the motion to raise the bill to the floor? Have you all recorded your vote? The Clerk will record.

SENATOR NEWELL: It is apparent I can't win but I would sure like to have a record vote so everybody gets a chance to signal the taxpayers.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator...

PRESIDENT: Record vote.

CLERK: (Read the record vote as found on pages 1016-17 of the Legislative Journal.) 20 ayes, 24 nays, Mr. President,