

amendment. And the members of the Omaha delegation should be running to embrace this amendment because, in essence, those sales and income taxpayers in outstate Nebraska would now pick up the tab for your economic development in Omaha. But the reason I'm supporting it, it is strictly a matter of principle. I'm saying if I'm going to hand out an exemption to somebody I should be the one to pick up the tab for it. Now Senator Abboud questioned Senator Dierks on the cost of it. He said, I think ne said a quarter of a million for every 10 million dollars in exemption, is that right, Senator Dierks? Well I don't...I kind of question those. If you remember when we put on the famed Conway amendment, and ConAgra and Michael Harper started to cry that that amendment would cost them \$800,000, so if the ConAgra figures are correct, you are talking about \$800,000 a year that property taxes, we're taking away from property taxes in Douglas County. And I guess I don't think that is right. If it is such a good idea, which I don't think it is, which I don't think it is to exempt these jets, computers and things like that, I think at least we should be the ones to pick up the tab. And, because of that, I support Senator Dierks' amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hefner, you have about two minutes.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise to support this amendment. I've always been a strong believer that when the state mandates local government to implement a new or expanded program that we should pick up the tab. And this would follow that very closely. I think that Senator Dierks has brought us a good amendment and, like he said, a common sense amendment. And to Senator Abboud, local government doesn't have that option. If this company decides to come into that particular area, they would have to go along with it. Certainly, they could work against it, but they just don't have that option. That...as I understand the way the bill is now that they would meet with the state tax commissioner and he would say whether this company meets the criteria that is in this bill. So, at this time, I'm going to support this amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The question is the motion to return the bill for purposes of an amendment. All in favor of returning the bill vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record. Record vote has been requested.

CLERK: (Read record vote as found on page 2511 of the Legislative Journal.) 15 ayes, 31 nays on the motion to return,