

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

February 2, 1999 LB 32, 232

bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR COORDSEN: LB 32 is advanced. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: LB 232 was introduced by Senator Beutler. (Read title.) The bill was read for the first time on January 11, referred to the Revenue Committee. The That Committee reports the bill to General File with no committee amendments.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Beutler, to open on the bill.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Coordsen, members of the Legislature, in the state of Nebraska, with regard to public entities and the sales and use taxes, almost all public entities, counties, townships, cities, villages, rural and urban fire protection districts, and others are exempt from paying the sales or use tax. However, with respect to natural resource districts for reasons that I never understood, natural resource districts have not been exempt from paying the sales and use tax. And what this bill does, essentially, is to include them then with municipalities and counties and others, and to exempt natural resource districts from the sales and use tax. The amount of money that would be represented in totality is in the neighborhood of \$230,000. The sales tax currently being paid by the various natural resource districts, I've handed out to you a chart that shows that, as well as additional information, so you can see, essentially, how much the natural resource districts in your particular area would be saved. I've also passed out to you a chart that I...that I thought you might find of interest. I think you should know that at this particular point in time the natural resource districts are going through a period of time where certain very significant sources of funding for them are in jeopardy of coming to an end. Some of their...they are funded by a local property tax, of course, which is limited, but they are also funded by certain kinds of sales and income tax revenues that are represented by a variety of funds, and I passed some of those out to you to show you the Natural Resources Development Fund, the Soil and Water Conservation Fund, the Small Watersheds Flood Control Fund, and the Natural Resources Enhancement Fund. Altogether there had...there has