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FLOOR DEBATE

April 9, 2001 LB 277

SENATOR STUHR: Senator Redfield, you're talking about correcting the brackets in the original bill. I'm not talking about the amendment right now. And it is going to cost the state about \$3 million the first year, is that correct, and about...

SENATOR REDFIELD: Two point six, I believe.

SENATOR STUHR: Yes, and then about \$6 million the following.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Correct.

SENATOR STUHR: Now there was something about that this is really...that we're just kind of reversing it, that it's really going to fall on the backs of the singles. Is...can you explain that from what I've just heard?

SENATOR REDFIELD: In the original LB 277 it was strictly a tax cut. It was bringing the married couples down to the exact same tax that singles pay right now. With the committee amendment, which was approved by the body, we said that we were going to bring the singles up a little bit, we were not going to take all of the bonus away, but we were going to bring them up a little bit to reduce the cost. That meant that singles wouldn't get as big a tax cut but they would both be paying the same amount. That means that two singles would pay the same as two married people. Some singles were concerned that one single was going to pay the same as a married couple, and it was two singles would pay the same as a married couple.

SENATOR STUHR: Oh, okay. So my concern is we're trying to keep young singles in Nebraska. We're, you know, we're trying to prevent them from...from leaving and...and so, you know, just...just the impact that it might...might have. Would you like to respond?

SENATOR REDFIELD: Well, Senator Stuhr, I would like nothing better than to pass LB 277 on the green copy. It would be a \$35 million tax cut and that would bring it down to the singles and it would not increase their tax burden at all. However,