

in an agricultural state and we certainly are, the co-ops are providing quite a service and maybe it is healthy but I think that there is quite an injustice here and I believe that Senator Duis has a corrective measure that will put it more in line with other corporations in the state of Nebraska. Thank you.

SPEAKER: The chair would like..the chair would like to note that we have visiting us 74 8th Grade students from Mary Our Queen parish in Omaha. They are in Senator Dickinson's district and they are here with their sponsors, Sister Mary Minard, Rev. Frances Kinney, Rev. James Novotny, Miss Mary Kay Ester and Miss Mary LaFaughn. Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: Mr. Speaker, Senators, first I would like to ask Senator Duis a question. Was this amendment in the original bill, 536.

SENATOR DUIS: 526.

SENATOR SYAS: Yes.

SENATOR DUIS: Was the amendment in the original...

SENATOR SYAS: What you are trying to do. Did it have a public hearing?

SENATOR DUIS: The one that I am proposing now?

SENATOR SYAS: Yes the one you're proposing.

SENATOR DUIS: Didn't have anymore public hearing than the one that was put in there. I figuring on taking it back out just the way it was put in.

SENATOR SYAS: All right. Now another little thing, are Credit Unions taxed?

SENATOR DUIS: You are more acquainted with those than I am.

SENATOR SYAS: I am asking you? It's a..you know Credit Unions and Co-ops are just about the same in their structure. I am asking you if Credit Unions are taxed.

SENATOR DUIS: Senator Syas, as far as I know, yes they are taxed.

SENATOR SYAS: Well, then, the next move would be then, logically, to start on the Credit Unions, take the taxes off of them, wouldn't it?

SENATOR DUIS: Now, Senator Syas, maybe you don't understand what we're doing...

SENATOR SYAS: I think I do too well.

SENATOR DUIS: Would you let me answer your question. These are taxed twice, not once. Credit Unions are only taxed once. This tax occurs when the patronage refund is not sent out both to the farmer and to the Co-ops. In other words, Co-ops are paying approximately fifty per cent more on them than other corporations. I wish you would take that into consideration.

SENATOR SYAS: Well, I will say this. Anytime, and I think Senator Burbach is right, that this didn't have a public hearing. That's the main thing. It did not have a public hearing and this is..has a lot of ramifications. Now if this had had a public hearing and a Committee had acted, I wouldn't feel so jumpy about it but here we are coming in, looks to me like we are trying to get something through but no one wanted to give it a public hearing because it might get opposition. Now this sounds awfully good. We've had some other bills in this Legislature that did, to me,