

(Start of Belt #18)

CLERK: 13 ayes, 20 nays, 16 not voting.

PRESIDENT: The amendment is lost. Do we have other amendments now to 529.

CLERK: There are no further amendments, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: All right. Ready now for the motion on the bill. Senator Burbach.

SENATOR BURBACH: I move to advance LB 529 from Select File to E & R engrossment and in so doing, this is a good bill. It has plenty of reason for being here but I want to point out one thing which may be escaped some of you on General File but I do not like to have someone sometime later think that this was moved in all great haste. It does one thing and I want everyone to be aware of the major part of this bill, the major change in taxation and I will read to you from the Revenue Committee statement on LB 529. A substantial change is made in the area of exemption for hospitals. Administratively the Department of Revenue has been classified nursing homes as hospitals and granting them exemption. The change will specifically separate the two entities and only grant exemption to those organizations, organized not for profit. There are 104 of these institutions affected by the passage of this legislation. Now if anyone wishes to discuss this portion of it or move it over to Select File, offer an amendment to strike this, I would oppose it. However, I do not think we are in position we want to lose the bill 529 because of this one feature. So, Mr. President, I move 529 be advanced from Select File to E & R for engrossment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, members of the body, nursing homes are something that I know about. I've never been able to understand why the nursing homes did not pay sales taxes. When I first found this out I was delighted but completely confused and the reason behind it as I was told was that the elderly should not be paying this tax. Well if this be the case, then the elderly who are not in the nursing homes should not be paying the tax either. But this is not the case, as the elderly that are in nursing homes do not pay the taxes but all the other elderly people do. I have always considered this a very unfair rebate to all nursing homes including the proprietary and the non-proprietary. I do have an objection to the not for profit and the profit. I think they ought to both be the same because they are both paid the same by the state of Nebraska for the services rendered. But at least we have made a step to take the 2½% sales tax on the items that are sold in proprietary nursing homes. Maybe next year, we can get the non-proprietary too.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion now of the bill? The question is shall LB 529 as amended be advanced from Gen. excuse me, be advanced from Select File to E & R engrossing. All those in favor vote aye. All those opposed vote no. Senator Barnett, for what purpose do you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. Chairman, I didn't get in here fast enough. I have been back in the first-aid room and we had a guy that got bonked on the head. I was taking care of him. I would like to move to reconsider the vote on Warner's amendment, if I could.

PRESIDENT: Well...you can move to return it. Your motion is out of order at the present time. You'll have to figure out another time for it here. The question is to advance the