

CLERK: 24 Ayes, 19 Nays, and 6 not voting.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Cavanaugh.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President, members of the body, I'm pleased to see that everyone is so interested in hearing what I have to say. In order to preserve Senator Barnett's constitution I am not going to pull another surprise on him and line up on the side of the Governor. But I haven't spoken to the Governor on this matter and as I think you are all aware I will oppose this bill from the beginning even before my very warm and close relationship to the Governor, even before it fully blossomed. The reasons have been consistent and remain the same for the same basic reasons that we have heard this morning. This is not a bill for the average taxpayer and homeowner in the State of Nebraska, and it is not the bill for average farmer in the State of Nebraska. This is a bill to grant tax relief to those who are in the upper income situation in the State of Nebraska. However state aid to education I think came about in its main public thrust a has been in the form of persuading the public that state aid would resolve in a restructuring of the tax system and a more equitable distribution of the tax burden. The effect of this bill would not achieve that end and so I find the bill extremely deficient and primarily in the areas of renter relief, I don't see how we contemplate a bill that will not pass for any property tax relief on to the renter. It is appears totally unreasonable to me, there is a large segment of this population that are renters and this bill is directed at landlord relief, landowner relief, and I find that an extremely inequitable position much more inequitable than even the property tax burden that is sustained by the middle and average income earner in the State of Nebraska today, and so I will continue my opposition to this bill and not vote to override the Governor's veto.

PRESIDENT: The Chair next recognizes Senator DeCamp, Burbach, Schmit, Dickinson, in that order. Senator DeCamp?

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, excuse me, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, thus far this morning we have talked about the arguments primarily in favor as opposed to the arguments primarily against. If I only had to decide the issue on these two things, I think I could probably decide to vote for LB472. However, I have to throw in the other thing, I think I am in a little different box than some of you and that is that I have to put on top of all of these, all the political arguments because I seem to have gotten mixed right into the middle of them, and some of the political arguments then that are coloring the whole thing are for example, this will cause a tax increase. A tax increase, would not enhance the running of Governor Exon next year. As you know, I am a democrat.

(end belt #6)

(start belt #7)

I have consistently supported the Governor on spending measures where there was a chance to cut taxes, most of the time, and so I am somewhat obligated as a democrat, as one who has supported the Governor and this political consideration does become very strong in this issue. However, weighing that then against all the other arguments, I am going to touch on a few things that haven't been dealt with properly. For example, one of the major arguments against the bill is that it has no provision for