

PRESIDENT: Consider it read.

CLERK: There are committee amendments pending.

PRESIDENT: Thank you.

SENATOR SYAS: I move that the committee amendments be adopted. The committee amendments have the effect of being the bill. I took the wording, or the wordage over to and asked the ATtorney General to help me with the wordage and brought it back to the committee and this is the best wordage we came up with. I think that if you adopt the amendments then I will discuss the bill, because the committee amendments is the bill. I so move.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion of the committee amendments? Question is shall the committee amendments be adopted? All those in favor of adopting the amendments please say aye, those opposed say no. So ordered. The amendments are adopted. Are there other amendments to the bill?

CLERK: None.

SENATOR SYAS: I move that LB104 as amended be advanced to E & R Initial. The purpose and I have written, and I am going to read my own committee reports because I think that it adequately tells you what is in the bill, no more or no less. The purpose of this bill is to add a tool in helping save our natural resources and environment. If the people vote favorably on 104 it will allow the legislature to exempt from property tax inwhole or in part forest lands, and lands where woody plants are grown and alsolands where natural or pond water is located, if these lands are not used for profit or no income is derived from the same. Another provision there that those...buildings can be on a specified lands that are exempt from property tax and these lands can not be urban in Character. The general idea of this bill is to save the ecology of the state and to encourage forestry and to encourage more tree planting and to encourage the farmer to leave his non-productive lands and woody plants or trees to encourage conservation of our natural resources of the state. Some, a and I'll be honest with you, there will be a very minimal loss of tax funds to the county and subdivisions of the state because I suppose that even though it is small these lands are taxed and I think that my idea of that is that if the people vote for this amendment andit must be the rules and regulations must be set up by statutory law in the legislature and I think that we trust ourselves that the refunds to the county I think will be very low out of the state sales and income sales tax. This bill will encourage the building of farm ponds and so forth. If the land is used for profit one can not qualify. If thelands are in a urban area. They can not qualify. The reason the buildings are in there is because if it wasn't that way a farmer could have planted some trees in his yard and probably qualify, but since there are buildings involved why he can not qualify. I think that this is one of the greatest steps that the state of Nebraska can take. This is known as a tree planter state. This amendment allowing the people to vote on it will be a real asset to the state of Nebraska when it comes back to our heritage of being a tree planter state and getting something moving in this direction. I think that this will also help the conservation districts. When you have to go out and get a farmer to agree to allow you to use part of his land for some