

January 8, 1974

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. President, I at this time oppose the motion to kill the bill. I would like to ask Senator Syas a question. Senator Syas, as I understand the bill, all this does is it gives authority to Legislature to set the ground rules if this passes.

SENATOR SYAS: Correct.

SENATOR KREMER: Then it's up to us to see what can be done and what cannot be done.

SENATOR SYAS: Within the limits of the Constitutional Amendment itself. Urban, and you have to be in a rural area and it can't be used for profits and things of that nature. The Legislature must do it. Yes. The Legislature must set the enabling legislation. They draw the actual law.

SENATOR KREMER: I really like the actual law, because I feel we should do anything we can to encourage conservation and the development of woodlands, shelterbelts. Now shelterbelts would come in this area would they not.

SENATOR SYAS: Certainly they would. Sure they would, if they weren't grazed. I mean you know..as long as they weren't used for profit. A shelterbelt that was...that wasn't grazed sure it would come under it..sure it would. That's my intent.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you. I oppose the motion to kill LB104

PRESIDENT: The chair recognizes Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President and members of the body. We must remember that we're writing a Constitutional Amendment. Now we don't want to write into the Constitution the statutes. That's why we have two sets of books. The Constitution that restricts us from doing things. And the statutes that tell us how we're going to do them. Now a Constitution Amendment that Senator Syas is proposing would allow rural areas to take off of the tax roll land that's not productive. Now this is something that has been wanted for a long time. Tax equalization. I understand from my rural friends that is taken into consideration when the tax bill is put on their farm. Now if this is the case, it is not taken according to the statutes as they are now. The land is supposed to be all taxed the same. This Constitutional Amendment would take that land that's not productive and take it off of the tax roll as long as it does not produce an income. Now while it's not producing income it will be improving the environment. This is the object of the Constitutional Amendment. I urge we oppose the kill motion and support this Constitutional Amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nore, we're still speaking on the motion to indefinitely postpone LB104.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President and fellow members I oppose the killing of this bill and I would like to say that I think many of you here remember back in the 30's when we had no fuel, but the old timber land. We didn't have anything to burn. We sold most of our cattle and we didn't have any cow chips to burn. So most of the folks in Boone, Nance and my district. Many of them went to the old timber land to get roots to burn. We may have to do that again. So we'd better start growing some trees. We could have an atomic