

SENATOR SYAS: All I'm asking about the amendment, I'm not opposing the bill or the 10¢. But I would like to ask the introducer since it applies really it says, all state, but when it comes right down to it it is Omaha, Lincoln and Grand Island. Whether there are four bills or three bills in Urban Affairs that is going to give some Revenue to the Omaha transet company, and we don't know if they are going to pass. What if they don't pass. What if we don't get any of these... that is what I am trying to get at. It is nice to stand up here Senator and say that I am for the old people, which I am for too, but we have got to finance this thing too. What are they going to do, use hot air to run the buses?

PRESIDENT: Senator Mahoney.

SENATOR MAHONEY: No, but Senator Syas in reply to you, we take care of everybody in this body. We take care of the bankers, we take care of the....

SENATOR SYAS: I understand that, I...

SENATOR MAHONEY: Give me my opportunity now Senator Syas, you have a loud voice but I can out shout you sometimes. In this particular field you have also got to remember that the three bills that you have got before them that these poor old people were led down here by bus, and I think that they were actually misled, because they call for a 2 mil levy on a persons home. I'm not so sure that the testimony that you heard on the bill was all together correct and they were going to take monies in another bill that is debatable. I think that the old people ought to have their say and if we give them a 10¢ fare, I think that we would help make up the deficit the transit system and some of these other places need the extra funds to come from.

PRESIDENT: Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: (mike not activated) make sense, I realize that. I am for this 10¢, I am for these people riding the bus for that amount. I am only asking that if Senator Mahoney and some of the rest of them will put up the money to finance this thing when the time comes. When the bills are voted out of committee, Urban Affairs Committee, I don't know what ones, if any of them will come out. I want the money where the amendment is. That is all. I don't want to mislead a lot of old people in to saying that they are going to get something and then find out that there is no money to finance it. I think that is cruel. I'm for this if you finance it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter, do you care to respond.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well of course, I'll make a general statement, obviously mass transit has to be operated at a loss. It will have to be made up through fares or the levy on whatever properties those who want to do it and that is part of the purpose of this bill. I listened last night to the President of the United States to advocate the diversion of a considerable amount of money from the highway funds into mass transit. They have already done that in many cases. They put into the city of Omaha millions and millions of dollars in order to formulate the initial start which the city couldn't do by itself. So obviously if you are going to have mass transit on any levels, we have it in my town and I think that Senator Stull has it to some degree in Alliance. It can not be operated on anything except a loss.