

February 8, 1974

in favor will vote aye, all opposed vote nay, it will take a simple majority. Have you all voted, I will give you a little time. The motion is to strike the committee amendments and to adopt the Waldron amendment. Have you all voted? Clerk shall record.

CLERK: 17 ayes, 10 nays Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The amendments are adopted. Now the Clerk has a motion on the desk.

CLERK: I have another amendment ahead of the motion. By Senator Duis. On page 2, line 4, strike "two" and insert "six" and reinstate the stricken matter. On page 2, line 26, insert "six" after tax and on page 3, line 6, insert "six cents".

PRESIDENT: Senator Duis?

SENATOR DUIS: Mr. President, the amendment is very simple, it will increase the gas tax by 1¢ instead of decreasing the gas tax the way it was before. This is acceptable I believe to all of the aviation industry in the state of Nebraska. This is one groups of people who don't mind paying their aviation tax, they feel that it is necessary and they enjoy from it the benefits of their airports and also for we people who use the airports at our convenience and at our necessity and this amendment, I believe if should carry, would merely increase the gas tax by this and thereby make more money available to the private, that is to the Aeronautics Department and also to the airports of the state of Nebraska.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kelly, do you wish to speak on the motion?

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, I rise to heartely support this increase, this is the direction that we should be going, not decreasing.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion of the motion? Senator Waldron?

SENATOR WALDRON: Mr. President, increasing the taxes are hardly the way to be going, if I am to follow the basic philosophy that I have been following this morning, trying to reduce the tax and I think the people can see this. Remember this is cash funds gentlemen, what we need to do is to do away with all cash funds in this state except for the minor associations that just tax their own association members and so we could get a better control of these people's budgets. I think the Department of Aeronautics has around 80 employees out there and we, they will have more employees if you increase this tax, not necessarily that they are going to have provided better service and better construction projects or better moneys for the construction projects at these airports are vital to Nebraska. I certainly think that we would not want right at this stage especially, not increase the tax on aviation fuel and not increase the tax on anything. I think this is the entirely wrong direction to be going.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? If not, Senator Duis do you wish to close on your motion?

SENATOR DUIS: I believe the motion can be voted upon, I think that at this excellent situation that we have that the people in the industry would go ahead and accept the larger tax in order to improve the facilities

(end belt #9)