

LB640

million dollars to invest in education and road and institutions and many other areas that are of vital concern to this state. We have knuckled under time after time and in the area of pollution to the extent that we don't own our ourselves anymore. Now I am saying right now that and one of the main reasons for the advancement of this bill and the passage of this bill is to call attention to the fact that by virtue of the regulation and the statutes that have been passed down to us from the Federal Government which we accept, we are saddling the people of this state with another hundred million dollars of expense. I think that it is adding insult to injury to tax that equipment to force them to pay to the state another two and a half million dollars of sales tax. We exempted the equipment which is used in water quality control. This is only being fair and equitable that we exempt the the equipment that is used in air quality control. I think that we have to except that fact, it is a not a matter of where you are going to get the bucks, this is what Senator Burbach of the Revenue Committee is concerned about, the question is in the first place in my mind, we probably didn't need to send the hundred million in this area. The fact is that we are going to spend a hundred million. Lets not saddle these people with another 2½% on top of that. Lets exempt this and be equitable and do what is right. I think that Senator Keyes is off base when he says that we are going to go clear across the board. I think that we need to recognize that argument as not being sound and valid and advance the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Waldron, did you want to be recognized?

SENATOR WALDRON: Mr. President, members of the legislature, I rise in support of this bill and I arise at the support of Senator Schmit. We have a lot of invested here in the state of Nebraska and I think that environment protection is concern of all of the Nebraskans and I think that this is a logical area and we want these industries to develop as rapidly as they can anti pollution devices. I think that the citizens of the state of Nebraska have an interest in getting this developed rapidly. By reducing the sales tax or income and sales tax, I think that it is a good policy. It will not only encourage you to go more rapidly, but why should we be taxing them for something that is really designed to benefit all Nebraska. It...this is not designed to benefit the industry concerned. We are going to help the environment of the whole state. That is what we have to keep in mind, not the fact that you were thinking about helping a special industry. We are helping everyone in the state.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hasebroock, what is your pleasure regarding the bill?

SENATOR HASEBROOCK: Mr. Chairman, I move that LB640 be advanced to E & R Initial.

PRESIDENT: Is there any further discussion of the bill? Alright, the question is then...Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. Chairman, fellow members, I think that we have to be a little, or use a little bit discretion on these exemptions. Every year we get a few more and a few more and I agree with Senator Burbach, pretty soon we won't have much of a base, and I haven't had any of my constituents ask for this particular legislation. I think that the average farmer that puts in a...