

April 3, 1974

but I am saying that a city can sell revenue bonds without a vote of the people and they want what they call revenue bonds. They want the benefit of issuing these bonds without a vote of the people but they want the low interest rates that comes from general obligation bonds. So they are trying to get the best of each type of bond and avoid the responsibility of the vote of the people. I am opposed to this amendment because it is not restricted to off-street parking facilities. The city can issue bonds under this bill for any purpose a that it wants too, as I understand it. It just happens that it came before the legislature because Lincoln was interested in an off-street parking facility. For those Legislators from Omaha, and I'm going to try and be as brief as I can so I don't take the 10 minutes. Omaha is restricted to as to where they can place off-street parking facilities according to the way that I understand it. Now if you have a situation where Omaha wants to have some off-street parking but the people do not want it, then Omaha can get around the vote of the people and issue what amounts to general obligation bonds which requires the vote of the people under this law without getting that vote of the people. Thereby they can get around the wishes of the people which may be that there will be no off-street parking facilities. I'm opposed to this bill. I think that it is not proper, and I think that it takes away a fundamental right of the people with reference as to how money is to be spent, and the obligation to the city is to assume and I think that it gives too much irresponsible and arrogant authority to a city council.

SPEAKER: Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Mr. President, I only speak for...the district that I come from. I don't know whether they want it or not. I presume that those that are interested in this project do. I don't think that the people of my area would if they knew what it was. The only interest that I have is to strike the first class cities out of the bill. The Clerk...can you tell me how to do that? When we get to that point?

SPEAKER: Mr. Clerk, did you hear the question?

CLERK: Yes.

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. Speaker, I can do that for him if that is what he is desirable.

SENATOR CARPENTER: That is the only thing that I have in the or against the bill.

SENATOR BARNETT: The probably the thing that we have to do is in that case is where the first part of that amendment where any city of the metropolitan class or primary class which we struck out should be put back in. Then it refers to just strictly to Omaha and Lincoln. In that case Vince the first part of that amendment where it says any city of the Metropolitan class or primary class which we struck out should be put back in. Then it refers just strictly to Omaha and Lincoln. This is what then the court decision is all about. It has the primary....

SPEAKER: Is that what you want done Senator Barnett?