

(Begin Belt 4A)

April 3, 1974

I'm going to defer the question if it's agreeable to you to Senator Maresh. He has the figures before him. It's his bill and I don't recall just on top of the head, I could find the answer but Senator Maresh will answer your question. With the difference between a \$10 and a \$12 and it won't be hard for you or I or anyone else to figure the difference of one more dollar so if you will ask Senator....Maresh the question.

SENATOR NORE: Yes. I'd like to continue if you could.

PRESIDENT: You don't want to ask any more questions?

SENATOR NORE: I want to discuss the bill.

PRESIDENT: Yes, you go right on.

SENATOR NORE: The folks that we need to help in the area of food are getting food stamps. If your income isn't up to a certain point, you take your 1040 and take it to ...to the assistance office and put it up on the wall and if it fits, why they give you food. That is food stamps. So I don't think this group needs any....politically it's beautiful. If I was running for office, I'd probably have to be for this but beings I'm not, for the good of the citizen, I think probably we should leave it at \$10. Because those folks that need food, that need help on food, can get food stamps.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes and then Senator Marsh and then Senator Frank Lewis. Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Well, Mr. President, I will tell you this that at 13¢ and a 2½% sales tax, we are going to break even. There is no ifs, ands and buts about it. We will break even within...oh, a hundred thousand dollars across the state. So this is what the difference...and we're going at 13¢. That means that the people that pay this food tax will get back as much. If you don't happen to collect it, that's your hard luck but it is available at 13¢ so I'm going to Senator Maresh. Surprise you, Senator Maresh.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Nore, I would like to respond to you. I believe that there are many people who could be eligible for food stamps who choose not to be. I think we want to refund as we can now see it. The cost of state government's share on food, this is a logical fairly simple way to do it so I support the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator F. Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: I appreciate the political advice from Senator Nore. My first concern is to have total exemptions for food. That obviously is not the desire of the Legislature. The second best alternative is the bill that Senator Maresh has and I support it.

PRESIDENT: Is there any further discussion of this? Senator Epke.

SENATOR EPKE: Mr. President and fellow members. I rise to support the amendment. When we heard this bill in committee, why it was pretty well pointed out that....just what Senator Keyes said, that \$13 would cover the entire