

(Begin Belt 5A)

financial interest at all. I'm not a member, I have not been a member and probably will never be a member. I don't know. But nevertheless we're very thankful for what we can get now and we sincerely hope we can get more in the future. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. President, I told Burbach that we would possibly try to change this on the floor of the Legislature. But I realize ten minutes is not long enough. I am very sorry that we are going to treat the co-ops in the State of Nebraska different than they're treated across the nation. I do not believe in taxing them unjustly and if 80% of the tax should be taken off, then the other 20% has just as much reason to come off. Senator Burbach, we'll go with you this year on it. Next year we'll take the 20% off.

PRESIDENT: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Senator Burbach, next year in your deliberations, I wish you would invite me to appear before your committee because I notice that the banks are also taxed differently by the State of Nebraska than any other corporation. And I'd like to exclude them too.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cal Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I rise to support the amendment even though I agree with Senator Kremer and Senator Duis. It is not what the co-ops had wholeheartedly sought but really, this is a partial relief of what really amounts to double taxation. And the committee looked at this quite seriously, have for a couple of years now and I believe that it is a right direction to go and that we are treating them more fairly than they have been treated before. And I believe the bill now is in good form and I certainly urge you to support both the amendment and the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: No response.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nore passes. Is there any further discussion? Senator Burbach, you may close.

SENATOR BURBACH: Sir, I have no closing other than to say we do have a unique way probably of enforcing our..... deliberating on our income tax. We hinge it to the federal. And, of course, in the case of Senator Murphy on the bank, we do tax banks differently than in other instances. We have a franchise tax for banks. And this is one of the things and one of the reasons that I and other members of our committee, including those and even the introducer of the bill, fully realize when they say that they're ready to accept these amendments, that we must be mindful of the fact we cannot chop away all the time on the tax that we have and such as Senator Murphy said, he'd like to see the banks exempt from the franchise tax that we have. We feel as though we cannot....we can make some changes as we go along but we don't want to depart too far from our original intent of income taxation.