

I move for their adoption.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the committee amendments to LB 103. Senator Maresh, do you wish to be recognized on the motion? Senator Cullan, do you wish to speak on the committee amendments?

SENATOR CULLAN: I would just say, Mr. President, that these amendments are technical. In my opinion, they do not change the intent of the legislation whatsoever. The clarifying amendments with respect to the distribution formula came to us from those who perform the computer analysis that each of you have seen so that other individuals in the Department of Revenue would know exactly what formula we are using for distribution of railroad taxes. So in my opinion the amendments are only technical in nature.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Clerk, record.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried and the committee amendments are adopted. Senator Cullan, do you wish to address yourself to the bill?

SENATOR CULLAN: Okay, Mr. President. I would like to ask for the indulgence of the Legislature as I think we deal with one of the more complex bills that will face the Legislature in this particular session. Senator Newell and I sponsored a railroad tax bill in the last session. It was a very complex matter and we found out really the bill did not do what we wanted it to do, and so we spent this summer with Senator Keyes and Senator Clark investigating rail taxes. We came to a greater understanding of how the system functions and we drafted for introduction by Senator Newell and myself what I think is a very good piece of legislation. I think as a preface to this discussion it would be beneficial for me to review quickly and as concisely as possible for the members of the Legislature the current railroad taxation system in the State of Nebraska. Existing in Nebraska today there are two separate and distinct railroad taxing systems. They are first of all, the unit tax system or the main line tax system which is for all railroad property in the State of Nebraska and that unit system is used to fund all political subdivisions in the State of Nebraska with one exception. That one exception is the municipalities and municipalities receive their funding insofar as railroad taxes are concerned from an entirely different system of railroad taxes. The second system is