

March 28, 1979

LB 103

to introduce someone from his district, Mr. David Wegner, from North Platte, Nebraska, District 42. Would you stand so we may welcome you? And in the...from Senator Landis' District in the north balcony, six clients from the Community Discovery from the Lincoln Regional Center and Pat Keller Harvey in the north balcony. May we welcome them to the Legislature. Senator Rumery, do you wish to speak on the bill?

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Schmit a question or two if he would yield. First of all, Senator Schmit, references have been made to what has taken place at North Platte with regard to the railroad taxes. I can only say that I would like to reiterate what a former Secretary of State in the Eisenhower administration said when they had some question about General Motors, of which he had been a president. He said, "What's good for General Motors is good for the United States of America". I submit that what's good for North Platte is also good for the State of Nebraska.

SENATOR SCHMIT: If that's a question, Senator Rumery, I'd just like to say that we get a lot less goodie in Bellwood than you get in North Platte.

SENATOR RUMERY: Well, I've got some other questions. Could not we pass this bill and then...I'm sure it does have some weaknesses...could we not amend those, maybe even amend it before we pass it, and get this, look at this like it is a small step in the right direction. Everything that you have pointed out in the field of taxation, I'm sure can be documented over and over again, but I'd hate to see us kill the bill before we make some effort to amend it so that it would be acceptable to the Legislature...the legislators here in the body.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Senator Rumery, I would like to do that if I thought that it would be helpful, but I'm afraid that what will happen is that first of all, there are some inequities in the way the procedure is handled at the present time for tax purposes within the various counties. Secondly, the responsibility rests with the Board of Equalization for how...when and how they handle the taxes for those railroads, and third, as I said earlier, I'm afraid if we pass this bill, there will be a general consensus that we've got the thing under control and there's no reason to do anything more about it, and we'll have passed over that part of the situation. So I think it's necessary