

now acting holier than thou, they are down here as the mayor of Omaha has been on bended knee begging legislators and others to understand the problems of an urban city like Omaha. It is important that he be on his bended knee. It is important also that you legislators understand the needs of an urban city like Omaha. To understand the problems, the financial crisis that face us. I don't think that.....

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have thirty seconds.

SENATOR NEWELL: I don't think that without this half cent city sales tax that the City of Omaha will be able to weather the impending crisis. If they do, it will not be a painless, it will be a very painful weathering. So for my friends from Lincoln, and especially Senator Marsh who has the holier than thou attitude, who talks about being used when she never was, I say in the future you may have the same problems and if you want to be understood, a little compassion and a little understanding at this point might well be worthwhile.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Your time is up. There are approximately thirteen minutes left on this bill. The Chair will recognize Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President, members of the body, for once I agree wholeheartedly with Senator Marsh. Many times we have had our differences but I think that she probably presented the issue as good as I can. I can't for the life of me figure out if there was extra money for the City of Omaha why they didn't fix their chuck holes. There wasn't a 7% lid on last year, that we hear so much about, instead of giving the property tax payer such a great break, two mills. I too have the letters that I saved from the mayor last year and I got them out the other day and read them and really felt sorry for the mayor. I'm sure that when he made that promise he was probably a little bit naive but he probably thought that that would actually happen. I don't see how he has the front to come back and ask us to extend this when those letters were so positive last year. For what I would like to find out from some of the Omaha senators that are supporting this half percent if they would support a half cent or a cent of sales income tax, sales tax with the accompanying income tax across the State of Nebraska. I think that is what it is going to take if we are going to have any meaningful reduction in property tax. It certainly galls me to hear that Omaha was able to reduce their property tax two mills when all over the state we went up, Lord knows, how many mills in some cases to get enough money to run. The other thing of course the sales and income tax was initiated by the