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LB 16

amendment but approximately...

PRESIDENT: I hope it is too. Senator Newell, you can relate whether it is speaking to the amendment.

SENATOR VENDITTE: How much does the average family spend today, Senator Newell, for example, in Douglas County for this particular sales tax on food?

SENATOR NEWELL: I have some various figures and because the incomes differ we have to base it on basic income. A poverty level budget of \$5,000, a cost of food at that home is estimated at \$2,181. These are figures provided by the USDA so that is some 44% of that poverty level budget. Now on a low income budget which is \$10,000, Senator Venditte, you and I are both on low income budgets so actually we are below the poverty level but we won't mention that. On a low income budget which is figured at \$10,000, approximately \$2,775, according to the USDA is spent on food, costs of food for that home which is 28% of that family's budget. So you see the dollar amount is rather static as we move across and I will give you two other figures, Senator Venditte. A middle income budget which is estimated at \$20,000, approximately \$3,417 is estimated at the cost of food so that still...

SENATOR VENDITTE: Breaking that down into dollars and cents, Senator Newell, that average family whose income is \$20,000 a year, how much then would they have spent during that period of one year on that particular tax? Not the amount of money that they are spending on food, but the approximate dollars and cents that go to pay to the support of the sales tax as mandated by statute?

SENATOR NEWELL: Yes, that would be \$153.79.

SENATOR VENDITTE: For that person making \$20,000 a year.

SENATOR NEWELL: Yes, in the City of Omaha that would be \$153.79 paid for taxes on food, and just taxes on the food.

SENATOR VENDITTE: Okay.

SENATOR NEWELL: Listen, I will offer this...I will show this sheet, Senator Venditte, to other, I will have it copied off and sent around to show the sheet so that others can look at it and get an idea.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Murphy if Senator Murphy wants to speak on the amendment. Senator Murphy. Is Senator Murphy in the room? All right, I will go on to Senator Johnson. Do you wish to speak to the amendment, Senator Johnson?