

PRESIDENT: Is Speaker Marvel here? We are to the point where we have only five minutes left, and the Chair is debating whether or not to have a close. Speaker Marvel. Pardon? No, Senator Hefner would be next, but I am raising the question of whether or not we are going to have any time for closing. If the Speaker says not, we will go on to Senator Hefner. Otherwise, it is time for the closing if there is going to be one, if there is going to be any time for a closing. We will just stand by...be at ease until I find out what the Speaker wants to do on this. Yes, Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: It is within our rules that the introducer of the legislation has the right to close and they generally get ten minutes for a close. I would be willing to do that...

PRESIDENT: But we are operating under a Special Order according to a manner in which the Speaker wants this handled, and as I understood him, he wanted this handled by merely debating up to the point of the thirty minutes and then having a vote. Now here is the Speaker and I will let him react to that.

SENATOR NEWELL: Well, I would think...

PRESIDENT: He wants to know whether he gets the last five minutes to close, the introducer. Senator Newell. All right, the Speaker said, all right. So this will be the last five minutes given to the introducer to close. Senator Newell, time for closing, yes.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I think there has been some interesting points brought up in the course of the debate and I would like to address some of those that I thought had missed their mark or were not necessarily as appropriate as others. Senator Cope, my good colleague from Kearney, mentioned the fact that we are going to derive great revenues from those people who come through the State of Nebraska. He forgot to mention the revenues that we are losing from those people that shop in Iowa, but come to Nebraska...who live in Nebraska and claim the credit here. But he talked about the great revenues. I would like to remind people the one thing about LB 16 that differs from past food tax exemption proposals is that it does not exempt food at the grocery stores, it does not exempt food from vending machines and it does not exempt candy, that this bill will, in fact, get those transient people who drive through this great expanse that we call Nebraska, they will be paying a tax at the restaurants and those other places that they stop, and for that reason I think that Senator Cope's