

January 23, 1980

LB 44

Senator Maresh, as introducer, moves to amend. His amendments are on page 302 of the Legislative Journal and they read as follows: Read.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, what this does, it changes the \$23 to \$26 just like the Governor's food tax credit bill which is LB 670 and this was heard by the Revenue Committee and it still is in committee and I talked to the Governor and he has no objection to do the same thing in my bill as his bill does. I think this would simplify the process of going through General File all over again. If we can do this with one bill, I think we should do it. This would increase the cost of the fiscal impact to \$9 million. For each \$1 that we increase the food tax credit, we increase the fiscal impact \$1.5 million. I realize this may not be enough of a credit for those that live in Lincoln, Omaha, Bellevue and North Platte but I don't think this is the place we should determine if they should have a sales tax or not. We have another bill sponsored by Senator Kahle and others that does this, to take away that prerogative of the municipalities levying a one percent sales tax and in Omaha the one and a half percent. This is LB 625. So if you want to argue if it's right to have an additional tax on food, I wish you would do it on that bill and not on this bill. If you want to go out in support of his bill, then that is your choice and I wish we won't argue if this is enough of a credit in Lincoln, Omaha, Bellevue and North Platte. This original bill was designed to help the people of the State of Nebraska for 1979. It was to increase the credit from \$20 to \$23, but because of the maneuvers here on the floor, we didn't get this bill passed and the people are not going to receive an additional credit for 1979. I first thought we could probably keep it for 1979 and give credit now when the people are filing their income tax forms and are asking for credit but the Revenue Department, Mr. Fred Herrington, told me that this would cause him a lot of expense and a lot of labor, a lot of time for their clerks to go through all the reports and try to find out who would receive the additional credit and who didn't so I think it is better to just forget about '79, if the body did not wish to increase the credit for 1979. I think we should forget about 1979 and increase the credit to \$26 for 1980. So I move that LB 44 be advanced to E & R Initial.

PRESIDENT: Now you are speaking to the amendment now.

SENATOR MARESH: Pardon me. That is right. We had better