

the pressures and so forth would also not support Senator Keyes. His points are well taken and they are related to the surplus. Senator Chambers talks about a different side of this issue and while \$40 goes above the median average which would be \$34, the \$40, that is \$6 above the median average if we decided to make that decision on that based on that basis and it is short of the \$47 which would be the total amount we would rebate if we didn't want to make any money off of the tax on food. For that reason the \$40 figure Senator Keyes offers is a totally different approach than what Senator Chambers is offering and I think that we have discussed this issue long enough, that the compromise is a reasonable one and I would hope that those who'd supported me in the past will continue to support this proposal. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: The question.

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp calls the question. Do I see five hands. I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. The motion is to cease debate on the Keyes amendment to LB 44. Record the vote.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 3 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Motion passes. Debate ceases. Senator Keyes, you may close on your motion.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker and fellow Senators, at a time when the general fund of this state is bursting at over a \$100 million and everyone of our bills are paid, everyone of our bills are paid and we have a \$100 million in the general fund kitty. I do not want to obligate the next session of the Legislature or this Legislature after that. All I want to do is say that to the people of the State of Nebraska, we have collected almost \$100 million from you more than we need and what we are going to do is return to you \$20 more food tax credit than was returned last year. One year only, it will be \$30 million. It will still leave us in the vicinity of \$60 or \$70 million surplus in the treasury. People can walk around and say, well, it is just one of those things but let me tell you, we have people who have paid taxes into the State of Nebraska, borrowed the money at ten and twelve and fourteen percent interest and now we are putting the money out at ten percent interest or eleven or twelve and not going to return it to the people.