

February 25, 1980

LB 507

what kind of a deal you are trying to work out with the railroads, and I don't care. But we passed this bill. They are getting off the hook, so I ask the senators to oppose your amendment to give them another year leeway. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR NICHOL PRESIDING

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator DeCamp, would you like to close on your amendment?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Rex, you have expressed some real legitimate concerns. I would ask you as one legislator, should this amendment be adopted, to be in on every single word or anything that happens in the next eight or ten months on this. I will personally make sure that you are notified, that you participate in it. I think this ton-mile tax is more significant than somewhat. If I can firm it up... remember we are talking about the next forty or fifty years, not just the next year, but if we can firm it up by this action by showing this Legislature, the State of Nebraska, has gone further in giving the benefit of the doubt and trying to give them an opportunity to come with an alternate solution, then I don't think ultimately if they don't any court in this land is going to say that can't be done. I think it firms up our case. There is a couple additional points. Since we passed the bill, Nebraska has been designated as a pilot state for study because of the intense traffic. I think we have the most in the United States now, and I guess I just think that...let's make sure that we put all the pieces together correct here so that if we have to use the ton-mile tax, by golly we have got a case that can win and win quick. If we go ahead and don't give the delay or don't give that benefit of the doubt, at least there is a chance for them to stall the doggone thing in court for a couple of years. I think...I guess what I am saying, Rex, is I honestly believe we are going to be winners this way, better, and I wouldn't do it otherwise.

SENATOR NICHOL: You are voting on the DeCamp amendment.

CLERK: Senator Nichol voting aye.

SENATOR NICHOL: Have you all voted? Record, please.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator DeCamp's amendment.

SENATOR NICHOL: Do you have something else, Mr. Clerk?