

March 3, 1980

LB 613

bad time to be exempting the lid. I think LB 2 should be repealed right now. I think this is the wrong vehicle to do it on. So, with that in mind, I am going to support Senator DeCamp's motion because I think it makes Senator Keyes' proposal less palatable and then I would like to see them both die because this is not the time nor the place nor the vehicle for making these kinds of momentous decisions. The committee is trying to make something work here. The committee toiled long and hard and we listened to similar debates as Senator Lewis' and we did listen to Senator Murphy's debate in the committee three times. Senator Murphy makes that same speech very well. For that reason I would encourage you to accept the amendment and then kill the Keyes proposal. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion before the House is the DeCamp amendment to the Keyes amendment to LB 613. Do you want to close, Senator DeCamp?

SENATOR DE CAMP: Mr. President, I know you are in a hurry and I know the Legislature is in a hurry. I think the issue is pretty serious and I would like to give you a simple example of how LB 2 works. It hasn't worked that way yet but it can. It will eventually. I think LB 2 is probably unconstitutional if anybody chooses to challenge it despite what the Attorney General says. I, as an individual citizen under LB 2, can go into my school district or my town, my whatever, and I can write whatever number I want for that budget. I can write a budget that has one dollar in it to finance and run the entire school district and under LB 2 that goes on forever until repealed by a majority of the registered voters. In other words it is unrepealable basically. Now in Omaha they wrote 0% but what prevented them under LB 2 from writing whatever number they wanted, a negative amount. LB 2 is exactly what he said. It is "mobocracy" and because our founding fathers in this state were maybe just a trifle brighter than us on occasion, they put into the constitution, a prohibition against this very procedure being used against the Legislature. Now if this idea, if this procedure of somebody simply going out, getting signatures on a piece of paper and writing his own budget for the state is so good, why don't you do it to yourselves? Can you imagine the burden you are imposing on elected officials? You have completely loused up, fouled up and abused local government. If you want a lid, do it legitimately, do it straight out. Don't create pandemonium, but let's be honest about how LB 2 really came about for just a minute. It isn't like everybody thinks. I think there is verification for this if somebody wants to check it out. LB 2 was designed for precisely the opposite effect of what it has had. When the lid

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