

more specifically, if you believe in representative government, then we must allow the people of the State of Nebraska, the people of local subdivisions the right to choose their representatives and those representatives to make a budget to determine what they think their priorities will be and should be and then, and then and only then, should we give the people the right as we have with the Constitution as Senator Stoney so eloquently said, the right for initiative. Now heretofore we have never given the people of local subdivisions the right of initiative. It has only been at the state level through our Constitution that we granted this right of initiative and maybe that is a good idea. I happen to have voted against LB 2 but maybe it is a good idea that we give the people the right of initiative but if we do that we should not take away or we should not detract from representative government. We should make that initiative a yearly process. We should make the debate on whether the government has gone in excess or has been too stingy based on the budget, based on the realities of the time and not a two year period, not a three year period, not a five year period, not infinitum but instead, based on that budget, based on the realities of the situation and based on the debate of public debate on the realities that exist at that time. So a two year proposal cannot be justified philosophically. It can't be justified rationally. It is a poor attempt, Senator Burrows, as honest as it may be, to compromise. A one year limitation to the lid is the only way I think we can allow representative government to work...

SENATOR CLARK: You have one minute.

SENATOR NEWELL: ...and that, in fact, is what we are dealing with is we are leading with local representative governments, the school board, the city council, whatever. They are local governments and with that in mind, I am going to oppose the two year limitation. I support the one year limitation. I will not support the amendment to do away with LB 2 even though I did not support it and I have some real questions about its usefulness but instead I would rather see us limit the access to 7% instead of the 15% which is in keeping with the Constitution and then passing LB 627.

SENATOR CLARK: Your time is up.

SENATOR NEWELL: Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Hoagland.