

April 10, 1980

LB 882

SENATOR KOCH: Then I will wait until that time then, thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Dworak, do you want to talk to the Newell amendment?

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, I will be brief but I can remember 518 so clearly. I can remember my office full of farmers, farm lobby, implement dealers, business lobby and I had real problems with 518. As Senator Newell indicated, the bottom line that convinced me to accept 518 knowing that it would put an additional burden on property tax, and I can cite Lindsay, Nebraska, as a beautiful example with Lindsay Manufacturing being exempted now of over \$100,000 of inventory tax having to be picked up by just a few homes in that community but I was willing to pay that price. I was willing to accept that political liability if we put a cap on the amount of money that could be drained out of the state general fund. Now I can remember when we talked about \$30,000,000 being just all the money that we would ever need to fund the personal property tax exemption. Well now it is \$70,000,000 and guess what? \$70,000,000 isn't enough and now today we are faced with LB 882 and LB 691 for that matter. The portions of both of these bills that are absolutely unacceptable to me is we are opening that lid up again. We are opening the floodgates up again. We are abdicating our responsibility to spend the money and to tax. We are telling the counties and the schools and the cities and other local subdivisions of government, you spend but we will tax. Now that is government at its poorest. We are saying that we will not be accountable to the people what is being spent. Now I realize we need 882 or 691. I understand that. I understand the situation as it exists but for...please take the escalator clause out. Please shut the door on the open-ended liability. That is all I ask. If this amendment is accepted I can vote for 882 and a lot of other people can with good conscience and if you don't want to do it and you don't feel it can be done through 882 then we have to have 691 where that escalator clause can be eliminated.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I am going to talk this one time and then the only time I will put my light on is to call the question but I want to speak to the Newell amendment and I want to remind the Legislature a little bit about 518 as well. If you remember the debate on LB 518 and on Select File, there was an amendment sponsored by Senator Kahle and I to raise it, not from