

May 20, 1981

LB 39, 39A

As you know we piggyback onto the federal income tax system and if, in fact, the current administration is successful in getting a tax reduction that is going to affect Nebraska income. So with these uncertainties that will crystalize and be clear next year, it is my personal feeling and the feeling of Senator Warner that it would be prudent to hold this over until next session. I think that the concept is good. There is no question about the validity of the concept. You can certainly argue the merits of LB 39 and 39A but I think we have to understand individually and collectively the very real ramifications of this bill being passed at this time. So I would urge that we support Senator Warner in his motion to bracket LB 39 and 39A, not kill it, keep it alive, keep it viable until some of these answers shake out and when we have the facts before us next year, then act on it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker and members, I strongly object to this motion to return. This bill has had good support for General File and again on Select File. Those very people that have been talking about obstructing the process are the ones that obstruct the process and I think that this bill should be voted on, be read, be voted on, sent to the Governor. I know he does not like it. We did meet with the Governor earlier, some of the county officials and myself and he looked me straight in the eye and he said if you can find the money I will support it. Well I found the money. I found the money. It is the interest on the 70 million that the state did accumulate in the time when we held that money and we did not pay it out to the subdivisions of government that we should have paid out in my estimation. So I think the A bill on this is 2.3 or .4 million dollars we have collected. The state has collected around 2 million dollars in interest. I believe Senator Wagner has a better figure than that. So I think it is foolish for us to delay this bill at this time. This would be one way that the money would go back to the taxpayers directly because the medical vendor payments come from the county funds and from the property tax directly. So I object strenuously to holding this bill up another year. This is the year we need to pass it. Next year, we already took off two years and compromised so that we could take a look at next year as Senator Dworak talks about. And again I want to emphasize that that money for the, that was held up did draw interest and we have the figures to prove it from the departments that handled it. So I urge you not to delay LB 39 at this time. Thank you.