

Legislature, I supported Senator Peterson's measure because, in fact, Senator Peterson voted for this concept in committee. He believes in it. Now the distinction here is one who believes in the application of a policy in fairness and one who is simply trying to harass the bill and who is, in fact, not in favor of the policy that they are now promoting. Senator Vickers isn't in favor of a half cent sales tax in this situation. He is simply making an attempt to draw that out to an area and claim a desire for equal treatment when, in fact, he doesn't want equal treatment. Now in the event I thought Senator Vickers was genuine and if in the event he was saying that this policy is reasonable, that I'm willing to trust my second class cities, I'm willing to trust my villages with this kind of authority and I'll be happy to give them that authority, I'd vote for his amendment. The distinction is one who, between one who agrees with the concept of self-determination and trusting the local people and those who are simply trying to hoodwink and harass. In the event the 25 votes who supported the Peterson amendment are genuine in this, I see no reason not to act on this and to give this power to people generally. I trust the voters of this state to do as they wish, to vote on this in their own self-interest. However, I don't think it is fair to turn this into some kind of Christmas tree when you don't, in fact, support the policy. Now if Senator Vickers doesn't really want this policy I suggest he tries to repeal the Omaha sales tax. That is the kind of equilibrium he wants. That is the kind of equal treatment he really believes in but he doesn't have the fortitude to stand up here and make that kind of an amendment. In fact, he wants to harass this bill which he does not support and try to bring it down. I would suggest that Senator Vickers have the courage of his convictions to do what it is he wants done rather than to simply harass this measure beyond this place. I supported in good faith the Peterson amendment because I support the principle of self-determination of the financial future of communities in this state who are facing new federalism. I do not support political chicanery and the offering of halfhearted amendments designed to harass when, in fact, there are more genuine amendments that could be offered in the event someone would summon the fortitude to do so. Now in the event those of you who support this concept and are willing to extend it to second class cities are genuine, that means you want to draw this policy across the board, I'll live with that and I'll carry the bill with your amendment on it but if this is simply a charade with which to attack this concept, then I very strongly object. I am for equal treatment of different communities. We are put into this posi-