

April 7, 1982

LB 799

solar industry in this state. This is the thing I mentioned I think last night that the homebuilders of the state have worked out and got an agreement from the Governor that he would actually sign it, and I know they have talked to a number of members of the Legislature. That is the main part of this amendment. The other part has to do with the functioning of the geothermal, the other part of the geothermal that we did last night to make it functional, and that is about it. So what we are doing is putting those parts of 738 that had been agreed on in the committee and voted out on this floor with no changes whatsoever, we are putting them into 799 and completing all our energy package in LB 799. I would urge adoption of the amendment. I understand, I think Senator Remmers, is that right, and Senator Newell have some further strippings even over what that is and I guess we have no objections to that if that will accommodate them. We would still be maintaining the very essence of weatherization program, the solar thing I mentioned, the geothermal, and hopefully would get some little progress this year in the energy field.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise in support of the amendment to LB 799. As Senator DeCamp described it is basically the amended LB 738 which was my priority bill this year. It looks like we are not going to probably get to the bill although it is high on the General File list nevertheless. Since LB 799 is a companion bill on energy we felt that we ought to go ahead and propose it to you at this time. LB 738 as introduced was a massive effort to try and deal with the energy problems that we have in the state. I think that our present energy problems are severe enough that a massive effort was called for. Nevertheless the Banking Committee was concerned about the main component of that legislation which was to increase the severance tax to raise money to further weatherize buildings and provide some different energy programs. So because the Banking Committee did delete those portions of the bill and advance the bill which basically deals with solar tax credits, it was thought that we should stay with that proposal and not try and expand upon it in the amendment before you today. So all we are talking about, and there has been a handout from Senator DeCamp that describes it, is an effort to try and encourage the development of solar energy in the State of Nebraska, renewable domestic energy in the State of Nebraska by providing an income tax credit that we would provide to businesses, home owners and builders to provide for solar energy and other types of energy, renewable energy developments on homes and building. Now we have studied this