

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 591, the next bill scheduled for Final Reading, I have a motion from Senator Kahle to return the bill to Select File for a specific amendment, that amendment being to strike the enacting clause.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President and members, there is one thing I promised myself when I got out of bed this morning is that I wasn't going to get angry today. I really think this is the wrong time and you have heard some of the other arguments that I have been getting about my thoughts on city sales tax but there is a couple of points I would like to make. The city officials of Lincoln themselves have said they do not need this money at the present time. Of course we attached an amendment to the bill which allows all first class cities to not only put on the one cent sales tax they have already but also another half cent. Due to the economic changes that we are in right now I think this is a very poor time to be making this kind of a decision. If you remember the other day when we talked about the half cent sales tax that we voted now to put on across the State of Nebraska this next year, at least for a year, we immediately got some flak from some of the Omaha senators saying, my goodness, our sales tax will be five cents now. And I guess if Lincoln would add their half cent and several other cities would decide to, in future years if we wanted to increase the sales tax across the state and we've had many bills which would do that, we had several this year dealing with water issues and we've already had to add a half cent this year to make our state solvent. I'm not even sure that the half cent is going to do it. It really doesn't make much difference how much we raise this tax, if people aren't buying and making money we are not going to get the funding in. So with that, I am as sincere as I can be about this and I am not going to withdraw this amendment. I am going to run it because I think we need to look at this and I'm sure you know all the reasons that we talked about before, how this affects the outstate Nebraska people that come into the...especially the City of Lincoln, that have to do business here, an amount of money that is left here by outstate Nebraska. Senator Sieck has prepared some information and I would hope that as we progress with this issue you will give him a chance to tell his side of it and how much money actually comes into the City of Lincoln from outstate Nebraska. So with that, I move for the return of LB 591.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: I will wait for Senator Sieck.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you very much, Senator Nichol and