

indicate is that the City of Omaha and some of these other cities are going to have to start managing their finances better than they have been doing, that they cannot simply trot to the Legislature and say, we're all politicians. We're in trouble so you guys bail us out. Then we will go over to the...some of these clubs wherever the politicians go and have convivial get-togethers and we will be happy because you helped bail us out. I am not down here representing Omaha as a city, an entity or an administration, I am down here to try to do things that will benefit the people who live in Omaha and the sales tax does not benefit the people. There have been occasions when I think there were small reductions in the property tax in Omaha as a result of what the sales tax brought in for them and they said that is not what their intention was. They had a three point something million dollar surplus so I am not convinced that the story they gave is true. I wasn't convinced at the time they gave it that it was true and I think this motion will tell them that as of a certain date they need not count on the sales tax anymore. The best way to show the seriousness of that legislative purpose is to return this bill and use it in this fashion. I don't think twenty-five people in this Legislature are going to vote to pass this bill. That being the case, I would like to see it used for a worthwhile purpose. Now, when they talk about cutting the taxes for oil companies or deregulating them or whatever dodge is used to give them more money, the public uses the word "windfall." Opponents even in Congress and the Senate of those activities use the term, windfall. And without even defining it, we all know what that means. A windfall ought not be given to a city at the expense of its citizens. I don't want to go into the details of 816 because that is not really what we are supposed to be discussing but if, in fact, money is going to Omaha which would not have been going there before, there is no way Omaha can say it is in the same situation after the receipt of that money that they were in before the receipt of it. So I think we ought to start making adjustments in the sales tax, downward in the cities in the same way...

SENATOR LAMB: Thirty seconds, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that you made an upward adjustment this session for the state.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Barrett. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. Those in support of ceasing debate vote yes, those opposed vote no. Record.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator DeCamp to close.