

first class cities in the State of Nebraska to have the same options offered Lincoln, Nebraska, that Omaha, Nebraska, already enjoys. It will follow the same thing with the two year sunset, allow them two years to decide if they want to increase the state sales tax, their sales tax one percent to one and a half percent they can. We constantly talk down here about saving the number of bills, the things introduced, et cetera. If we pass this bill this year, I can foresee possibly next year that North Platte or an Ogallala or somebody else come in with the same...want to be granted the same rights and options that Lincoln and Omaha have. If we do this now, I think we can take care of it for the next two years and we will be done with it. I urge the passage of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Higgins, do you wish to speak on the amendment?

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to ask Senator Pappas a question. First of all, do you have a copy of the amendment out?

SENATOR PAPPAS: It was published in the Journal.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Can you tell me, the amendment you said would sunset?

SENATOR PAPPAS: No. Following the guidelines of the committee amendments that have already been passed, and the committee amendments have a sunset clause in it that allow I think two years...Lincoln will have two years to vote in the sales tax increase, otherwise they lose the option and this would be the same thing, the other first class cities would have two years just as Lincoln would.

SENATOR HIGGINS: What about a metropolitan class city? What I am concerned with is, would your amendment then say that in two years Omaha has to do that also?

SENATOR PAPPAS: No, I (interruption).

SENATOR HIGGINS: I would be afraid to vote for the amendment without (interruption).

SENATOR PAPPAS: (Interruption) ...this is just giving the first class cities the right to increase their sales tax.