

problem, and (c) whether extending that sales tax to the first class cities represents an additional awful erosion of the state tax source, and Senator Vickers thinks it does, and if we concluded that it did, why we would not move the bill to the floor. But the issue of how we treat first class cities has almost always been raised by a separate legislative bill. The Omaha issue stands by itself. The Lincoln issue stands by itself and first class cities stand by themselves. So I think at this juncture the appropriate thing to do is to reject Senator Pappas' amendment and then simply look at the City of Lincoln on its own merits.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I oppose this amendment at this time. I don't think it was included in the hearing, was it, Senator Pappas.

SENATOR PAPPAS: No, Senator, it was not but basically I don't think you can say the problems that the Scottsbluffs or North Plattes or Bellevue have are that much different than the problems that the City of Lincoln or Omaha have.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Thank you, it was not considered in the hearing. Secondly, it has been run through the mill in the western end of the state several times that cities want a sales tax that do not have any sales tax now and I suggest to you that those cities don't need more money. There is no lid. They can assess it if they want to and let them take the heat rather than us. If they can get through a sales tax that they are allowed to do now, okay, but I wouldn't be for allowing them to go to a cent and a half right off the bat.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Pappas.

SENATOR PAPPAS: A few clarifications on this that they was talking about. Granted, it was not presented at the hearing but I reemphasize the problems in the North Plattes, the Ogallalas, the Bellevues in Nebraska aren't any different than the problems they have in the Lincoln, Nebraskas. Senator Johnson and a few other people that stood up and talked about eroding the state tax base, and I think several years ago we had a bill in the Revenue Committee that would have asked the people of Omaha to go back and vote on a half percent increase. I think Senator Johnson was one person