

PRESIDENT MCGINLEY PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: Next to speak on the Landis motion is Senator Remmers and then Senator Beyer.

SENATOR REMMERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose Senator Landis' amendment. I believe he is mistaken when he suggests that the fraternal are not performing according to their charge. I think that if...he would be surprised if he checked carefully how much these fraternal organizations return to their communities. I have been amazed myself through the years at the amount of money that is returned to a community and I think you are changing the rules here when it is not justified, when the fraternal have been doing as they are charged, as indicated for them to do. And so I would oppose any move to change the rules at this time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Beyer.

SENATOR BEYER: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I would oppose this amendment. Right now there is being handed out to you some facts that have to do with the Nebraska fraternal. It says the amount of revenue that would be raised and then it goes on to tell you how much is contributed back to the local communities. The fraternal are different than the other insurance companies in the fact that they are limited to who they can sell insurance to, the fact that they cannot sell group insurance, that their rates are basically as high as all of the other insurance companies. The only thing is that in lieu of the tax they are putting it back into the community through scholarships, through other services that they donate, the various things that they do with all the communities through their local lodges. And under our retaliatory tax system in Nebraska we would raise very little tax but the other...the fraternal could be paying extremely high taxes in the other state that we would have no way of getting back on that basis. So with that I would oppose the motion.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Higgins and then Senator Hannibal has requested time. Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. When my husband worked at the federal penitentiary in Leavenworth he joined the Kansas Peace Office Association. It was a fraternal