

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken. See pages 1776-77 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR BEUTLER: The call is raised.

CLERK: 19 ayes, 25 nays, Mr. President.

SENATOR BEUTLER: The motion fails. Are there any further amendments to the committee amendments, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Nothing further to the committee amendments, Mr. President.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. We are back on the committee amendments. The next light I have on is Senator Marsh's light. Did you wish to speak to the committee amendments?

SENATOR MARSH: (Response inaudible.)

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Vard Johnson, your light is on next. Did you wish to speak to the committee amendments?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Well, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I know that you had a lot of laughs and giggles on that last amendment. I hope that that is only sort of the opening shot, and we kind of get that little humor out of our system as we deal with this measure. The next couple of days we are going to deal with tax increase measures for the state. Now this is not a big one for the state, but it will provide approximately \$400,000 for the State of Nebraska, and in addition it will provide about \$400,000 to county government, and it is making no substantive changes whatsoever to the Documentary Stamp Tax Act. It is simply raising the rate, from where it was first set in 1944, at \$1.10 per \$1,000 to \$1.50 per \$1,000. It's not a great...it's not a big deal, yet it is an important measure for us to pass. Now I know that Senator Chambers's has gotten exercised because of the word "tax". Senator Chambers likes to spend, but when it comes to tax that is a different story. It is always kind of good to be in that position, to let everybody else carry the burdens, like donkeys and mules, and then here comes the old race horse who can spend it. That is what we are going to do this week. We are going to be the donkeys and mules and do the tax work. With that, I hope you would adopt the committee amendments which make this a fairly reasonable bill for both