

the state and the counties and the taxpayer.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Johnson, beings you weren't willing to compromise, maybe we ought to kill the bill.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I compromised initially.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well, but we are on the legislative floor now and you want the bill real bad, so I say maybe we should just kill the bill, unless you would be willing to reconsider the 50-50 split.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I'm not going to reconsider the 50-50 split. I mean if you want to negotiate I suppose we can negotiate out here in the open. I mean we've never made negotiations secret. The truth of the matter is the state has always received 75 percent of this tax collection.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Would you go 60-40?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: And we, the committee, said all right, let the counties now get 1/3 and the state get 66 2/3. If the county gets one-third of this tax as its collection fee, it is the most aggregious, outrageous collection fee in the State of Nebraska. We only allow...

SENATOR HABERMAN: Whoa, whoa, wait a minute, you are using my time. Maybe we should try another amendment later on for 60-40. Thank you, Senator. You would support that? Thank you, Senator Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I will not support it.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Nichol.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, it is no fun to lose. But I don't think I like the bill any more now. I still can't get over this Legislature, and we've been doing it since long before anybody here was in the Legislature and that is saying, counties, you do the work and we'll collect the money and we'll spend the money. But when it goes to giving out anything to the county, like to indigents, we say, yes, we are going to pick that up.