

amendments to be taken up after that.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President, members of the body, first of all, I want to thank you for recognizing me for my 70th birthday although I am still 69, tomorrow I will be 70, so I like to put it in that fashion. So today I feel still 69. Okay, LB 890 is a bill I introduced on behalf of the municipalities and on behalf of one of the cities within my own district, and I understand that there are many municipalities that are quite anxious for this bill. And the purpose of it is to allow a municipality to initiate a half cent sales tax for a special project by a vote of the people, and they would have to list that project on the ballot that they want to have it for, and I feel that this should be something that the cities should have. With the federal program cutbacks as they are facing us in many of the villages and the terrific property tax pressures that many of them are finding, they need a way to eliminate some of that pressure, and there is a safety net in the bill that they have to name the project that will fit their particular situation and I feel that that is good. And then the future city councils would also be binding for that particular project, so that they couldn't cancel that project in between time, and I think that is very important to be able to finance that project until it is completed, but again I want to tell you that I am supporting this even though I am a rural senator and will contribute to that project within my own locality. I feel it is something municipals really need to help themselves and I would highly endorse this particular bill and hope that you can see fit to follow up on it. Now I understand that there is an amendment going to be placed on it to allow the other cities that already have a sales tax to increase their sales tax a half a cent and that also will be by the vote of the people and there will be other senators talking about this. Now I don't have too much misgivings about it. I would hate to see my bill killed because of that one but I will let the other two senators that are carrying this to work on it and I think we should be debating that before I really go into my bill completely. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Sieck. An amendment on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Pappas, I understand you want to withdraw your amendment, Senator. Mr. President, Senator