

Nebraska, and I feel if they had had this...the Department of Revenue had made a decision much earlier than this so that it could have been brought before the court, it would have been resolved by now. It is strange that they have held off for two years forcing a good company in this state to expend a lot of money in legal fees, not because of their own fault. I don't feel they have been dealt with in a justifiable way and I ask you to support the Peterson amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson, are you going to close?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I would like to but I can't. It is not my amendment but I will make one other remark that I forgot to make.

SPEAKER NICHOL: All right.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I was just reminded of this by Senator Conway. It is correct that Nucor does have to spend some small amount of money in legal fees in dealing with this question, but you should remember that last year we gave Nucor a quarter of a million dollars sales tax break by deciding that they wouldn't have to litigate the carbon rod issue. So every year Nucor has a small stipend from the state worth a quarter of a million dollars so they didn't have to litigate the carbon rod issue. I don't think that the small legal fees that they will pay in the litigation of the argon gas issue, I think that those legal fees have been more than paid for by the carbon rod question. This is a \$700,000 tax expenditure. I ask you again to vote against it.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Were you through, Senator Johnson? Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I am standing on a point of personal privilege. Senator Hoagland is leaving now. He is walking around giving out Senator Chris Beutler's campaign material. There goes the author of the Accountability Commission, the man who says we need election laws, with his tail between legs. He says, I am leaving now, Marge.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay.

SENATOR HIGGINS: I just want to know, Mr. President, are there any rules about campaigning on the floor of the Legislature? I have thousands of emery boards, I have never brought them into