

LB 890 will permit that to be a 5.5 percent rate in first class cities, in second class cities, across this state. In addition, you and I passed LB 662, last year, which will be on the ballot in November 1986. And if LB 662 is maintained, which I hope it is, for the basic purpose of property tax relief, we are going to have a 6.5 percent rate, not just in Omaha, not just in Lincoln, not just in Bellevue, but all first class cities, and all second class cities where the voters decide to put in a 6.5 percent rate. To put this heavy a sales tax burden on moderate income people and poor people is wrong. It is just plain wrong. And I don't care if the voters themselves decide to put it in, I don't care if the voters themselves decide to put it in, periodically there are some things that are just plain wrong to do. Wasn't the best of things to do it in Omaha, but in Omaha it turned out that we were in a desperate fix because of some CIR decisions back in the early 1980s, and we needed additional revenue, so the voters put it on. That is where it is. And Lincoln, Lincoln came in a year later and kind of hitched its star to the Omaha wagon and it put it on as well. But just because there has been a wagon doesn't mean that the wagon train shouldn't stop. It should stop. If you and I, as state senators, are committed to increasing the state rate to 4 percent, which appears to be a majority will in this body, then you and I should not be voting for legislation which would allow a statewide rate of 5.5 percent to the detriment of moderate income people and poor people, to the detriment of those farmers and ranchers who don't live in the cities and got to pay the higher tax rate, comes a time when you simply say no. And I think this is one of those times. For that reason, I would move that LB 890 be returned to Select File for a specific amendment, strike the enacting clause which is the equivalent of killing the bill.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Pappas. The Chair wishes to recite the following speaking list at the present time. After Senator Pappas, Senator Morehead, Senator Lamb, Senator Vickers, Senator Higgins, Senator Warner, and Senator DeCamp. Senator Pappas.

SENATOR PAPPAS: Mr. President, colleagues, I get a little confused. I guess I haven't been around here long enough. First of all I think I am appalled at what Senator Vard Johnson stands up here and so eloquently talks about. You know, I look at what he said. He said yesterday, yesterday we passed this half cent increase, half cent increase in sales tax. Come January, when it goes into effect, poor Omaha and Lincoln are