

It really wasn't necessary. I would have to say that some of my good friends and colleagues when they stand on this floor a year from now, and they will be back, most of you, are going to have to say we need this money because we have to provide a lifeline for the poor. We have to provide some method whereby those individuals who can't afford telephone service are going to be served. And Senator Warner and the Appropriations Committee are going to have to tussle with how to handle it, and Senator Vard Johnson in Revenue will wonder upon whom can he levy a little tiny tax to take care of that poor individual who can no longer afford that telephone service. When it is all said and done, there will be another problem and that will be the cost of our own telephone service at the various levels of government. The City of Omaha, Senator Vard Johnson was most eloquent, referring to the expansion of the sales tax to the various entities.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I had a bill in the Revenue Committee, Senator Johnson, you were a member of it for many years, that would have resolved that problem. Unfortunately, it did not find its way to the floor, not because it was opposed, but because no one had the courage to bite the bullet to tell the cities you can't have it. They were too big and too tough. But what has happened here today is that we have found some very tough proponents and we have not had, and I apologize, I have not been strong enough, I have not been eloquent enough, I have not been articulate enough, I have not been educated enough to convince you of the correctness of my arguments. I have failed the people of the State of Nebraska and I feel badly about it and that is why I must speak today. I cannot allow the bill to become law without calling it to your attention once again. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. It is Senator Schmit's motion to return the bill to Select File for a substantive amendment. Senator Nelson. I am going through the names that were left over from the last thing in case you wish to speak. Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I was going to maybe call the question. I have not spoke on this all the way through this debate. And I do happen to, as most of you know, serve on Public Works. So, hopefully I have a little more of the basic knowledge and some of the problems that maybe we see or we do not see on this bill. This is not an easy decision for me. I have followed this very carefully for the last two