

for the general homestead exemption so we don't have a problem with it during the regular session. That is what 6E does. I think I have had the Pages pass out and place on your desk the rationale for LB 6 provided to us by the Governor and the revenue department. If there are any questions, I will be happy to take them up.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President and members, as Senator Johnson told you, in the last session which was only weeks away, I was responsible for extending, I think, it was my amendment that extended the homestead exemption, at least the funding portion of it until '86-87. It is unfortunate that Senator Hoagland isn't here because I think he would possibly tell me, I told you so. And I would be here saying, well, Senator Hoagland, I said at that time that if the money wasn't there, I would be ready to repeal it myself. The Governor did that for me or at least put the bill in. I don't have to do that, but what I will do is I will support it. It doesn't look like the funding is going to be there. It definitely isn't there now. It probably won't be there next year. And as much as I think the homeowners need that relief, we are in serious economic times and the vote of the Revenue Committee shows that, I am sure, because many of those members last year supported the extension of the homestead exemption. So I will support LB 6. As much as I prefer not to, I think it is necessary at this time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President and colleagues, I rise in opposition to the repealing of the homestead exemption. My belief is that this is probably the only true property tax relief measure that we have ever considered since I have been in this body. We have talked about increasing state aid to education. We have talked about giving aid to the counties through Medicaid. We have given aid to the cities through different programs, to my City of Omaha. And we have given these types of programs where we have given state money to the local political subdivisions. But, unfortunately, this has not translated into property tax relief for the people of this state. Now homestead exemption in principle is the ideal way to have property tax relief. You get the money directly to the people. They have the money in their hands. The money comes directly