

November 6, 1985

have us adjourn this session and call another. So I don't think that his doing it this way had entitled us on the basis of the call language or even this purported amendment to the call to consider the income tax. I do think, though, based on the inherent power that the Legislature has to legislate and do those things without which a Legislature is not a Legislature, we can consider raising the income tax or any other means necessary that traditionally are used by governments to raise revenue. So I think this expanded thing, this amended proclamation is just a nullity. It has as much legal significance as one of those Governorships that they give you in the Navy of Nebraska, or whatever they call it. So I don't think this piece of paper means anything.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President and members, approximately two weeks ago Governor Kerrey made some pretty strong pronouncements including the following, that under no circumstances was he going to allow an income tax to be considered, an income tax increase, and he also said he would go to court and stop anybody that attempted to bring it up or attempted to get it passed. At that time I wrote a request for an official opinion to the Attorney General, I think I may have sent you copies, and I said I have known the Governor for awhile and I know he has a tendency to change his mind, and I rather suspect that because he has said how strongly he feels on this that he is not going to do it that that is an absolute guarantee that he will. And I asked the Attorney General whether he could, in fact, expand it exactly as he has attempted to do here. And the Attorney General provided me an opinion and the opinion said, DeCamp, we ain't going to tell you. We are not going to give you any information on it. The only one we are going to tell is the Governor, and, of course, we know...you can get a copy of the Attorney General's Opinion on that should you like. We know that...I suspect the Governor would have more influence with the Attorney General in convincing him of what the proper opinion should be than I would these days. My point is essentially the same as Senator Chambers, read the Constitution. I have got it right here. Take it out and read the section on special session. Read the case law on the whole subject of calling special sessions. It talks about the subjects, the issues for which the legislators were called. In fact, it orders