

SENATOR DECAMP: We will always be friends.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, with that, ladies and gentlemen, we should return to our seats for Final Reading and unauthorized personnel please leave the floor, and as soon as you are in your seats we will begin Final Reading.

SENATOR DECAMP: Could I have an estimate on time to read LB 1?

SPEAKER NICHOL: LB 1 will take about an hour and a half, maybe not quite, and if you would like, perhaps we can be at ease while Final Reading is being read and we will call you back 10 minutes or so before the closing of the reading. Let's take #6 first and #14 second and #1 third. So please remain in your seats and we will take them in that order. Okay, so please return to your seats and we will begin. Mr. Clerk, I understand you have a motion.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have a motion. Senator Abboud would move to return LB 6 to Select File for a specific amendment, that amendment being to strike the enacting clause.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, I am offering an amendment today. It deals with the striking of the enacting clause for the homestead exemption. During this second special session of 1985 we have been asked by Governor Kerrey to do away with the homestead exemption as a means of property tax relief for the homeowners of the State of Nebraska. Now I doubt that the Governor wants to do away with the homestead exemption because he feels that property taxes in this state are reasonable and I think it is safe to assume that there isn't a Senator in this room that feels that property taxes have gotten under control and that they couldn't be reduced. A lot of us feel that property taxes are too high in this state, and also a lot of us, at least in this particular room, feel that the high property taxes, the problem with it, lie with our local political officials, and it is with the local political officials' inability to control their spending appetites. I know that in my particular legislative district property taxes are going to be going up over 10 percent this year, and, in fact, there will be over a 10 percent increase in Douglas County alone.