

down, look this revenue raiser in the face, let the reconsideration flow and then take a vote on this bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Higgins. Senator DeCamp, I believe you are next on the bill. Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I can say unqualifiedly I have no regrets and I am not ashamed to say that I voted not to raise the taxes this year. I came down here with that pledge and I am leaving here with that pledge. If the Governor chooses to line item veto, that is his prerogative. We had the opportunity to cut the budget more. We stuck by 3 percent on some things, 2 percent on others and again, I repeat, there are working men and working women in this state that have taken 20 percent cuts in salary and we brag about a 3 percent cut in spending. So I have no regrets and I don't think anyone else that voted not to raise the taxes of the people of this state, I don't think they regret it. And I am particularly glad about it because we didn't do anything again in the way of property tax relief. So as long as we don't do property tax relief, why should we increase the taxes some more on them? I have no regrets that I would not vote to give one-fifth of the State of Nebraska's budget to one entity. Education is necessary but I wonder where are our priorities. One-fifth of the budget going to the University and 80 percent being divided among all the other necessities in this state is not fair. If you vote to reconsider this, I think it is just a waste of time except for the fact that now they are scurrying around trying to get the two more votes to raise the taxes on the people who year after year you have promised to reduce the taxes, you have promised tax relief. So I urge all of those who voted no to increase taxes to continue to vote no and not be swayed by any promises from anyone. Stick by your convictions. Stick with what you promise. I urge the defeat of this motion. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, you can feel in the room the sort of restlessness and this I think desire to take some kind of a break because we don't know what to do. I would suggest to you there is one clear message and that is that we can't go home. We can't go home. I will tell you why. Our job is not done. Our job is to have a balanced budget. We can't push that off to