

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I rise in support of the Lynch amendment. I think that obviously there are varying interpretations of the Hall amendment out there, what actually it does. It was adopted without a hearing. Senator Hall was very up front about that. However, I think we need the Airport Authority and the people that want this legislation to come in and explain it before a committee, have a very full airing of the issue. Right now the Omaha Airport Authority, I think it's very important for all of us to realize, does not have a general tax levying power. They support themselves through things like user fees. And I think that it would be wise to go along with Senator Lynch, to return, essentially, to what is the status quo, and to return the bill to adopt the Lynch amendment, to examine this issue carefully. I think Senator Ashford is absolutely right, we need to look at it between now and next session. But we should look at it from the point of view that current statutes have in place, not from the point of view that the Hall amendment has, which under some of the varying interpretations could jeopardize the Airport Authority's ability to finance itself. I would urge your support for this motion. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I have a question for Senator Hall, please.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Yes.

SENATOR ROBINSON: This would not put a fee on the cars that would be parked on these parking lots, off side of the airport, is that correct?

SENATOR HALL: That's absolutely correct.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay, just the vans that come and go.

SENATOR HALL: It wouldn't put any fee on anyone. It prohibits the airport from taxing those vans that come and go.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay, could...could they put a tax on cars that are parked at these parking lots?