

takes from the state what it must use, and next year is probably going to have to use to try to raise revenue. But aside from that, Senator Ashford's argument that a vote was taken by the public before there was legislative authorization to do this is one of the things that appoints to the arrogance of Omaha, if nothing else. It is one of those things which says Omaha is going to tell the Legislature what Omaha wants. Omaha is going to take these steps, then the Legislature must do what it is that Omaha wants. That is why you hear the mayor, hear various other people from the City of Omaha saying that the Legislature will not bow to the will of the people of Omaha. It is not a case of the Legislature not bowing to the will of the people of Omaha, it is a matter of the people of Omaha being misled about the nature of the taxing authority in this state. Omaha can levy the tax that it can right now because the Legislature chose to allow them to do so. They don't have any right grounded in the Constitution to do that. The Legislature has the taxing power and the Legislature has shared a part of that with the City of Omaha. But to make the blunder of saying that all the city need do is conduct an election and the Legislature is bound by that election would be ridiculous. That is a preposterous position and I would not even argue it if I were for this tax, but I am not, and I am not controlling or advising how this thing should be done by them. The vote that was given Monday...Friday was one which surprised a number of people. It certainly surprised me because the rural senators had told me something different. So they had their laugh on me, and as you all are well aware, I did not offer many amendments, I did not conduct my usual tactic of fighting in every way that I could under the rules against the amendment that Senator Ashford offered. And that was a mistake on my part, nobody to blame except myself. I've been in the Legislature 24 years. I let my guard down, hung my chin out there, I got popped, and I deserved it. Bam! But my eyes are open now, and I am going to continue now to play the...Senator Hall said they got us both. This game is going to be played a little differently. I have additional amendments on 1087. I have amendments on LB 961, and my amendments can be amended and they shall be. Since the rural senators decided to put me in a sling, so to speak, I am going to show them that I am a very good sport. I am not going to express anger. I am not going to express hostility. In fact, I am going to thank you...

SENATOR MOORE PRESIDING