

to the voters and ask for a second time but invest it in a new facility, one that would be in the range of 50 to 75 even possibly \$100 million and you do that, you do that by using the existing tax base. You do it by showing the kind of leadership that it takes to put your reputation on the line and I think that that's where we need to go in the City of Omaha. I think to invest this kind of money into the grand old lady that she was at one time is an ill-conceived idea. Even though I applaud Senator Ashford's effort, I think he has been very forthright in trying to see that we can do at a minimum something like this, I think we can't stand by and just be satisfied with a minimum. What we have to do is push forward and push forward means we have to build a new facility. That new facility is one that should basically take the place of what exists currently...

SENATOR MOORE: Time, Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: ...in Omaha and I would urge you at this point to vote for the reconsideration. Thank you, Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Next speaker is Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. President and members, I rise to support the reconsideration. Maybe we need to get into a set of definitions as Senator Ashford was talking about tax base as a definition. Perhaps we ought to call it tax source and we've said quite a bit about the fact that the state might lose some of its tax base, I would call it tax source. And I won't go into a lot of that except reiterate that the sales tax, the income tax is a primary source of the income from the state and so whether we give away tax base or we lessen our tax source, our potential for a tax source one way or the other it appears to me the state will be the loser with no alternative. He mentioned about losing the fertilizer tax and that's true. I guess that would be a lesser amount. The point of that one is that it's falling on a select few then that in this case uses a fertilizer in contrast to a sales tax in our present circumstances does apply broadly across the state. More than that I want to say that presently Omaha and Lincoln both get about 40 percent plus of their city budget from sales tax and that does not include special taxation, the special funds, but that is...I consider that property tax relief. That is not what most of the rest of the state is able to get and I hesitate to dig up old issues but as I recall a couple of years ago when we still had a simple majority to put on amendments on General