

talk about it as long as I'm around here and that is that a local option sales tax is an unfair tax particularly for the rural areas of Nebraska that don't have an ability to reach out and take money from those who come from the cities and the metropolitan areas to spend their money because very few of them come out to my town in my county and I said this before and the World-Herald didn't like it and explained that to me very succinctly and that's okay because I don't claim to be an expert in all tax matters, but I do claim to be an expert in being able to pay my taxes and watch where they go. So I'm going to stand with the great many of the others in the reconsideration vote and certainly I'll continue to make my vote against the increasing of any local option sales tax.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Will, your light is next followed by Senators Landis, Monen, Wickersham and Pedersen.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body, I rise in opposition to the motion to reconsider. I think without taking a lot of time, I think there has been some good points that have been made by the proponents of this motion, those who oppose the city sales tax. Senator Chambers is absolutely right that the vote that was taken of the people of the City of Omaha was nonbinding, lacks any legal authority at all. But the fact is, I think that as a Legislature it is incumbent upon us to listen to the citizens of a community when they essentially make a decision that amounts to imposing a tax upon themselves for a limited period of time and for specific purposes that were explained prior to the vote. Even though that is not binding as has been pointed out, it is an expression of the opinion of at least a majority of those that showed up and voted in that election and I think because of that we simply as a legislative body can't sit here and collectively ignore that. I think and also I agree wholeheartedly with Senator Hall that we need to be looking at things like convention centers and sports arenas in the City of Omaha, but again the specific purpose that this money would be used for with respect to the Civic Auditorium and some other facilities in the City of Omaha has been explained and has been voted on by the people and I think it's something that we as a Legislature need to respect, that we as a Legislature need to say, look, we recognize that this was a...a vote was taken and it's a responsible vote. It's a 1 percent, it's for a year, it's nothing that is completely out of the ordinary. It's not Omaha making a giant grab for a