

April 15, 1994 LB 961

of the issues before time waned. With that, I would ask your support for LB 961 and certainly understand and respect those decisions and opinions that people have expressed here on the floor. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator McKenzie. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I, like the others, am not sure what I'm doing when I'm talking here other than, I guess, just to explain my own feelings. But I do have a problem, I still don't know for sure how I'm going to vote, or if I'll vote at all. It has nothing to do with any part of the issue other than the original bill and my concern of the two new classifications that the bill now contains for personal property, that dealing with rental goods and livestock. And I have that fundamental problem. And I share the frustration that all of us have all the time when even numerous bills, whether it's appropriate or inappropriate, are combined in a single bill. It's not unusual, happens at the end of the session many times that there is something in it that you like, and something in it you do not like, and each of us has to make the judgment of which way you're going to go, where you believe the preponderance of truth lies, if the preponderance is good, or the preponderance is bad. Although I tend, in the long run, to take the position that if there is sufficient bad, no matter how much good, I vote no, and in the long run I think that's probably the better policy. But the part that I do want to talk about, because...is the revenue issue for next time, and reference has been made several times, but I feel very strongly about giving away the state tax base in the long run. I want to talk about what I...how I interpret what is done. And we keep referring to the cigarette tax, from my viewpoint that is a simple appropriation, which I do not object to. Obviously, it is a committed appropriation for a period of time. But you understand I assume Appropriations Committee does this the same way now, but over a per...there is, as you know, I think it's 10 million or so that is of the cigarette tax that for many years has been dedicated to the Nebraska Capital Construction Fund. And I know when I was there we would determine how many...what kind of capital construction would be approved without reference to fund source, and then that was added up, and if it came to \$12 million and you had 10 million available from the cigarette tax, you subtracted. It was arbitrarily distributed for the funding of those projects. If you had 2 million left over, that became General Fund appropriation.

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