

all I'm attempting to do, is to specify a county containing a metropolitan class city. Since that applies only to Douglas County, it makes it clear. We could perhaps have tried to find the population break and maybe said a county have a population above 400,000 or some such approach, but it was felt that this would be the cleanest, the easiest and it would make it very clear what is being done. The reason it is necessary is because the original version of the bill struck all reference to counties by classification. That means that the existing law would continue to apply to Douglas County. And in the existing law it speaks of a governing body, period. My amendment is to make it clear that in Douglas County the county board and no other governing body can increase that surcharge by any amount. This bill then would apply only to counties smaller than Douglas, meaning Lancaster, Sarpy, and right on down the line. I hope you will support this amendment. If you have any questions, I will answer them.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** Thank you, Senator Chambers. On the Chambers amendment, Senator Kristensen.

**SENATOR KRISTENSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. Senator Chambers, I would like to ask you just a couple of questions so I can get in what I assume to be your intent and as people carry this out. Your additional language talks about except in a county containing a city of the metropolitan class. Your assumption is that that includes all political subdivisions in that county as well, for example, currently it talks about a governing body, that could be the county board of Douglas County, that could be the City of Omaha. I don't know if you've got any villages in Douglas County. But your intent is to take all of those governing boards that are within that county and except them out, that they cannot do this. Is that your specific intent?

**SENATOR CHAMBERS:** Right. And what I may do, while the discussion is going on, is find a place to insert no governing body, for example, except in a county having the metropolitan class city. But when you begin to use the except and another negative, such as no governing body. I want to be sure that I'm not nullifying one thing by the inclusion of other language. But I wanted to be sure and get this idea into the bill. Even if it has to await additional clarification on Select File, that would be all right with me, because I'm not trying to hold the bill up. But I want this idea that in Douglas County, not only