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current law of \$40,000 to the proposed amount of \$80,000 for required preparation of project plans and supervision by an architect or professional engineer of new construction entered into by a political subdivision. This was last changed in 1978, when it was raised from \$10,000 to \$40,000. This now raises it to \$80,000. It is less than the cost of...the Consumer Price Index would be, which actually was...would...if it would...following the Consumer Price Index it would be \$94,882. I rounded it off, if you will, to the \$80,000 before local subdivisions would have to get an architect or an engineer to do their projects that they typically do. This was heard in Government Affairs Committee. I think it is an appropriate amount to raise this level before they need those services and I would entertain questions. I urge the advancement of the bill.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Chair recognizes Senator Suttle.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. May I ask Senator Wehrbein a question, please?

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Wehrbein, would you yield?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Does this change...does this bill address the liability of the...of having capital construction over a particular amount? Does this change the liability or the amount of liability that a political subdivision has to pay in order to not have an engineer or architect?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: No, it does not.

SENATOR SUTTLE: It doesn't change the liability.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: No. They're still liable.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Bromm for discussion on the advancement of LB 253.