

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

May 19, 1999

LB 637A

aspect of it and I think we will have jeopardized our...our ability to show the federal government that we intend to make this bill work. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Wehrbein, on the Baker amendment.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Once again, I...Mr. President, members, I rise to oppose the amendment, and I was going to say much the thing...same thing that Senator Brown said. We take this General Fund money away, our federal money goes away too. That's...that's the facts of life. The match is there and if we don't have our match they don't put theirs in, so it isn't that we can operate this on the federal funds to get where we need to go. And these...these funds are necessary. These are the issue that we have faced for several years and we've gotten extremely frustrated in our committee on the way these go, but it seems like there's no way to slow down technology changes: the things that are coming, the areas that we need and the software for the changes that are made. And so a lot of this is going to Douglas County so that they will make that switch because the information that feds need is not in their reporting system. And so I understand the frustration too. I had...was going to have the update on our committee and I scheduled it last week and it couldn't happen and ours is tomorrow, so I'm little short on the exact status of this. I take the word a hundred percent of what Senator Bohlke said of...as to those statuses and the money we've spent. But I...I do want to say, made just a little off the record, but the Y2K issue we solved a couple years ago with an improved format, learning from the things that we've done on some of these projects in other areas, and the Y2K project turned out very successful. We had a person in charge. We did the format. It was planned and they came in under the budget that we expected. And we are learning on that, from our perspective, when I say that, the appropriations, so that as we go into others, digitalization, some others, I think that we...and we're going to see another update in programming and DAS coming down the road in a couple years. We are trying hard to learn from that and have people in charge and do a good job. We're still...still getting everything tied up on the N...I don't want to confuse N-FOCUS either, but on CHARTS and JUSTICE, and some of it has to do with local response to some of these issues. It isn't...it isn't all because of the