

April 25, 1979

LB 285

SENATOR SIMON: Yes, I do. I have a question of Senator Koch, please, if he will yield.

SENATOR KOCH: Yes, sir.

SENATOR SIMON: Senator Koch, I want to commend you for this amendment and I want to ask you a question. I'm going to lay my cards out on the table, and we'll just discuss it right in front of the body. Last year I offered an amendment, that might have been offered more than once as a matter of fact, saying that all mandated programs, which again obviously the local level has no control over, should be excluded. Now you have started to address that with this amendment, but not completely. I guess my question is, was that considered and you did not offer that because it would not pass...you did not feel it would pass, or...?

SENATOR KOCH: Well, I appreciate that friendly question, Senator Simon. If I had my way, we wouldn't have a lid, and if I also had my way, any mandated program wouldn't fall under those expenditures, but it's obvious that this body wants to stay as close as they can to the intent of LB 1, and it's also obvious that they probably would not buy this, so I think that what you do in this kind of a position is you hope you can win a compromise, that we can identify those things that we have no really control over, and then allow that subdivision of government some relief from what's many times a very severe financial crises. Thank you.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Cal Carsten did you wish to speak on this?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, reluctantly I do rise to support this amendment. I was very apprehensive about putting very much into any more than what we had originally done with 285. We had discussed, talked about and considered many of these things, and such as we are now discussing here. It did seem that if we were going to follow the intent of LB 1 at all, they should not be considered. In all the discussions and considerations, it would appear to me that this may be as Senator Koch said, somewhat of a compromise that still permits some restriction, not only on schools but on all governmental subdivisions, but yet makes them live with seven percent of it. These things are things that subdivisions do not have any control of. I don't think that it is our intent to really curtail their meeting of those