

SENATOR KAHLE: How would it work if, I guess a school board decided that they wanted a 9% increase and they were in three different counties? Would the county board be bound them to raise this much money?

SENATOR NEWELL: Yes, the local...this is to exceed, Senator Kahle, this is to exceed the budget proposal. This is a limitation on the budget and so frankly, they then, you know, it is sort of a pass through thing. Whatever they choose as their budget, a school board or an NRD or whatever, they cross as jurisdictions, the county board is sort of duty bound frankly and has always done, has always raised whatever was necessary. This is a budget control act and so it is very compatible with this sort of a...with our present legislation and lid.

SENATOR KAHLE: But you could wind up with a considerable increase in your property tax without having any vote on it.

SENATOR NEWELL: Well, Senator Kahle, right now you can go to 7% if more than three-fourths of the board voted a special motion to say we should go to 9%, they could go to 9%. So it would be a 2% increase above 7% which is well below the inflation rate. It would be an increase from the 7% that is true if they chose by three-fourths majority to do that.

SENATOR KAHLE: Well, I oppose the amendment. There is no use to drag out the discussion any longer because if you can just...it is like a jigsaw puzzle trying to put a budget together anyhow and if you have one governing board that wants 9% and the others want 7 and maybe another one wants 8, you can go anywhere between 7 and 9. It is tough enough to work out the budget the way it is and I think that either, well I might as well say it flatly, either we take the lid off or leave it where it is at.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Fenger.

SENATOR FENGER: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I, too have to oppose the Newell amendment but on the grounds that it is not realistic or practical. I received my morning mail a copy of the minutes to the Sarpy County Board of Commissioners May 19. I just want to read one line. "Commissioner Gilbert moved that the Board support repeal of the lid bill." The motion died for lack of a second. So I don't see the hue and the cry and I would urge rejection of this and let's get Senator Koch's bill on the road if you please.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Burrows.

SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I think you ought to look at the rationale the original lid