

federal level. Most states in the Union have, in fact, reduced and do not have county share, any county share. We have one of the highest county shares of any state of the Union. Well, frankly, this is an archaic system that we have. It deserves to be reduced. Frankly this is modest. I was mad at Martin when he reduced it to a two year proposal and only reduced it two percent. At this point in time at least we ought to be able to override this very modest request by the people of the state for some property tax relief. I wholeheartedly urge this Legislature to do at this late hour the only responsible thing they can do and that is to override the Governor's veto.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vard Johnson, and then Senator Vickers.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, as I rise to speak, I ask myself, is there anything I can say that would cause members in this body to say, "We will override this veto". And it is difficult to know what can be said that will be persuasive to my fellow members and to my colleagues to cause each of us to decide we are going to override this veto. But the one thing that seems important to me is this. To whom do you and I answer? You and I answer to an electorate and that means that we answer to those 32,000 people in our district who want us to do as good a job as we can do in governing this state. Now you and I well know that governing is a fairly delicate operation. Frankly most citizens are basically anarchist at heart. Most citizens would prefer to have no government whatsoever so long as life was good for them. And as government intrudes and encroaches, they begin to resent government more and more and more but the one place, the one place right now which is truly the sticking point in the minds of our citizenry is the property tax. It doesn't make any difference whether you come from Omaha, which has the highest property tax per capita in the State of Nebraska, or you come from Farnam, which may have a high property tax but it is much smaller than that in Omaha. The truth of the matter is virtually every citizen resents the way we now require citizens to carry the property tax load in this state, and it seems to me that if we are not to inherit the whirlwind, so to speak, of citizen resentment in our inability to come up with a respectable and responsible tax structure, the least that we can do is to continue to keep our eye on the ball to provide some form of property tax relief. Senator Peterson, for example, has always been a supporter of a one-third,