

May 28, 1981

LR 146

Governor then, Jim Exon, and the Tax Commissioner didn't push because of the political thing in my estimation. So I guess just to finish my argument on this, as long, as long, and I quote, as we have the seven percent lid at the county level, you are not going to be...you can't expect those county assessors to get the job done. The assessor maybe is as willing as can be, as willing as water, but when he goes to the county board with his budget for the year to hire the help to do the job, they are not going to okay it. They don't know where to find the money and I think that is part of the problem. There are, of course, some who drag their feet. There always have been and there always will be but I think perhaps this resolution is kind of worthless. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, I would just ask Senator Koch this. I don't know if you need to respond to what I say your resolution says is that those assessors who have accomplished their reappraisals, we send them a letter or something saying you have been a good little boy or girl, and those who haven't, we send them a letter saying you have been a bad boy or girl but I don't see any penalties or anything in your resolution. I just assume you are going to say, "Good job, buddy!", or "No good job, buddy!", is that right? Okay, thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Koch, do you wish to close?

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In reply to Senator Kahle, I know that there are assessors out there very serious that try to do their jobs and the county commissioners are the ones that give them the money to do it but the county commissioners ought to also be aware of the fact that it is a law. The assessor must comply so the money has to be appropriated to whatever degree is necessary to carry out the intent of the law. To Senator Nichol I would say it is too bad we don't have a penalty in the law, and possibly then a few more people at that level would get a little more serious about that job. And for those of you who lose money in general aid to your public schools simply because there are some not doing their job, or doing their job and others not doing it, that is not in the best interest of other subdivisions of your counties either. So I think that the resolution is here for one purpose and that is to bring notice to the county assessors, to the county commissioners that we are going to watch, that if this continues, we will have to possibly do something more stringent to make

6062