

April 13, 1982

LB 816

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President, members of the body, I too support this amendment. I realize that it is coming from the counties and it is the same tax base that would be impound upon, whether it is the NRD or the county. But we are setting an image to the NRD's and we are asking the NRD's now to take all of their money from the tax source, which they can do and which they will do. It would set a bad image to the Natural Resource Districts. I feel that this is very bad timing in that particular perspective. So, I encourage you to vote for this even though it doesn't make a lot of difference. One is going to have to go to the tax base as well as the other. If you are taking away from the counties they are going to have to go to the tax base, if you take it away from the NRD's they will have to go to the tax base. But, the public doesn't realize this. There are some districts within the state that are up to their limit in the mill levy so they will eventually suffer and they will not be able to get any money. So they will be hurt. I encourage you to support this amendment. I think it is an excellent amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President, members, in this day of all days of urban-rural split, I find it hard to object to what Senator Kremer and Senator Sieck have just said, but it really doesn't do anything only makes the counties look bad and make the NRD's look good. So, I object to this transfer because it doesn't do anything. If you want to put money in NRD's lets do it right up front and lets not swipe it from somebody else. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the philosophy of 816 was to take away the small amounts of dollars that went primarily to property tax, provides services to property tax and to give those to other subdivisions of government. I will say that Senator Kremer's amendment takes it away from the appropriate place. It takes it away from the counties share of the funds and so therefore I could support it. I guess at this point I am not recommending one way or the other, the amendment is drafted. I probably will support it but I'm not going to ask others to support it if they don't want too. This is an issue of whether or not we should provide some state aid to Natural Resource Districts.

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