

proponents and opponents. This bill is going to be a tax saving bill. It is going to get money into the coffers earlier. It is going to be good for property taxpayers. It is going to be good for schools. It is going to be good for counties, good for all those districts that has to do with property taxes, right? Take a look at the proponents. Is there a single school that has called you, a single NRD, a single tech college, a single county? I don't believe it. I don't believe this bill...take a look at the proponents. The Nebraska Press Association represents the only voice for this bill before the committee. Now you may ask yourself, was the Nebraska Press Association taking on for itself making better policy out of the altruistic good of its heart, or were they trying to expand the amount of money they get from these kinds of notices. One estimate by one of the representatives before the committee was a 50 percent increase in cost. If there was a cost transfer to other property taxpayers, I would have voted for this bill. I was not in Exec Committee when we voted on this. I would have voted no. But there isn't a cost transfer to other people, why? Because delinquent taxes have a 14 percent delinquency fee. And you collect that if you have to by auctioning off the property, or the next time the property is sold for the tax lien, but you collect 14 percent of any delayed money. That is a higher penalty than any cost of money that replaces that money that you get through a warrant. In other words, whatever amount of delay you get, you get a 14 percent penalty and that is a hefty penalty. You lose nothing. That is why the schools aren't here. They don't lose money. That is why the counties aren't here. They don't lose money. Who gains money? The Nebraska Press Association for more costs. Now if this is a more efficient system, why don't we reduce the number of publications from three to two? If this is going to get people to pay, why don't we reduce the total number, because these have to be done three different times, why can't we reduce costs by adding the name and reduce it to two publications instead of three? Did the Press Association offer that? No. Was there any negotiation? No. This is there bill. They dropped it in and it makes them 50 percent more money and that is the sum total of the story on this bill. I don't doubt you haven't heard from people. They are probably small town publishers. I can tell you this is the same group that eight years ago when I was here argued that it was, I won't use the word, immoral. There was an amendment that we had that did away with the legal notice, done in probate, a legal notice that no lawyer, in my knowledge, in eight years has ever found anybody ever using or being notified