

of. It costs about \$125 and it is done at every time you do a will, and there are about 9,000 of them a year. It means a million dollars in publishing costs, and nobody has ever found somebody tripped by one of these notices. We brought in an amendment to strike this notice that nobody read and never had any effective public notice. It was killed by the Nebraska Press Association, saying you had to have this kind of a notice. This is a business, and this is a bottom line decision by a business that uses the law to get itself more money. If we are going to fight this fight, if we are going to make these kinds of adjustments, we ought to be very careful that we do this for a darn good reason. And if I had my way in this situation, we could keep our costs where they are by reducing the number of notices and adding the names. I will tell you I sat in the committee and there was no evidence of any hard or firm fast showing that the amount of property tax payments went up when this was passed. There was one piece of anecdotal information. It was a letter from another state that said, I think that was our experience, as I recall. That was the sum total of it. There was no comparison of the delinquency rate between this state and any state surrounding us, and I asked, would it be all right if we took some time to ask the delinquency rate between Nebraska and states surrounding us where this was used. The bill was reported out. No negotiation, no study, immediate action by I am sure small town publishers that are calling you and saying we have got to have this bill because it is good for property taxpayers. Where is Ed Jaksha's group? Where is the school board association? Where is the Nebraska Association of County Officials?

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thirty seconds.

SENATOR LANDIS: If this was good for property taxpayers, they would be here. They are not, and I ask you to call a spade a spade and own up to what this is, which is a claim for about 50 percent more in costs by the addition of this name with no reduction in the number of publications necessary to do this. At this point, this bill should not advance until there is some serious study or, in that case, a reduction of the number of publications so the total cost of government doesn't go up.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR LANDIS: If you want better efficiency, fine, put the name in and reduce from three to two the number of publications