

and keep your costs steady.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Coordsen, please.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. A little hard act to follow, I don't know if I could talk quite that fast, Senator Landis, if I was falling from the windmill to the ground and examined the possibilities of my state during the passage until collision. I also stand to oppose this. You know, 30 years or so ago when I first became aware of the responsibilities of the county treasurer's office, our county had a population of something around 8,500 people. The business of the county treasurer was taken up by a county treasurer and a part-time assistant during the licensing time and perhaps the sending out of the tax notices. Over the period of time that has ensued, this body has placed upon county treasurers and other county offices an onus of many reports and regulations to be obeyed, reports to be filed, to the extent that, in the county office of the courthouse of Thayer County, Nebraska, there is hardly room for the citizens of the county to get in and transact their business because of the number of employees that we have in that office to obey all of the things that they have to do. This bill, then, would accomplish very little more in the collection of taxes except providing the county treasurers in the affected counties with a little bit more work to do. A mention was made of the collection of taxes. It has been my experience, as Senator Landis indicated, we had to register many warrants at different times during the year in the nine years that I spent on the school board. It was not a problem. The taxes were collected in general within a period of one to two years was a major delinquency. The only pieces of property in the county that ultimately ended up being sold for taxes were small lots, small parcels of ground where the owners had disappeared, where they had no value, and, consequently, the taxes on those didn't amount to much. So I would think that this bill, while the intent of it is good, would serve very little good and useful purpose except to further complicate the issue of county government. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hefner, followed by Senators Rogers, Schmit, Lynch, Haberman, Kristensen, Smith, and Nelson. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, it sounds like this is getting more interesting all the time. I