

way out of a very sticky situation. And the way out of that situation is clear, but it also poses some possibilities of abuse on the other side, and it does. And I don't see any other way that we can get around some sort of difficulty where we finally have to say in the long run we're going to have to rely on the judgment and best analysis and decision-making process of county boards, school boards and what have you and the people are going to have to use their watchful eye. If, in fact, the counties do something that is irresponsible and school boards do something irresponsible with the budgeting process that would be set up with 643, if the oversight does not work, I guess that's a breakdown in the representative government system, but certainly not one that we can actually legislate for any potential possibility of that. I find that difficult to do with the bill. LB 643 will handle...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...the situation so the counties, municipalities and particularly the school districts will be able to have a budget set without fear, again without fear of midbudget time period having a lawsuit hit, particularly in regards to the railroad lawsuit which we know will be coming year after year after this thing, unless this thing is settled on the side of the state, and it's not going to happen in this particular point. And it will give them a way to have a stable budget so they can have something to do that they don't have to come to the State of Nebraska and ask for a bailout every year, and every year, and every year, and then it becomes a political ball game, which is very difficult to handle. With that, I guess that concludes my remarks for LB 643, and I urge its advancement to Select File, upon which, if there are other questions that we need to look at, we'll have that time to do so.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. The question is the advancement of LB 643 to E & R Initial. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Mr. President, I hate to call for a call of the house, and I don't want to do so, and I haven't done so yet, but...and I guess I don't need to, and that's good because I really didn't want to. (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT: Record, Mr. Clerk, please.