

approximately 21 other counties do the very same thing. I will read you some of the counties that are elected at large. There is Antelope, Arthur, Banner, Box Butte, Brown, Cherry, Dakota, Douglas, Garfield, Grant, Hooker, Kimball, Lancaster, McPherson, Morrill, Nance, Rock, Sioux, Thayer, Thomas and Wheeler. So I urge the adoption of my amendment that is possibly the only way that I will vote for LB 588, if they are nominated by district and elected at large with only five county commissioners rather than the seven. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the Labeledz amendment? Senator Chambers, followed by Senators Wesely, Schimek and Chizek.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, first of all the League of Women Voters testified at the committee hearing in favor of the bill as it is, with seven members all nominated by district and elected by district. But Senator Labeledz made an interesting comment. I'd like to ask her a question. Senator Labeledz, how much money did Howard Buffett raise to run for his seat on the Douglas County Board?

SENATOR LABEDZ: (Mike not turned on.) ...how much money he spent on his election, I'm concerned with the fact that he was elected and he's telling it like it is as a new member of the board...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, you answered.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Members of the Legislature, it was over \$100,000. And as I said to the committee, if his name was Howard Jones, instead of Howard Buffett, he would not have won and Senator Labeledz knows that and everybody on this floor who has ever dealt in politics knows why and how Howard Buffett won. And you notice it's the rookie who hasn't been there a year who is doing all of this for the county board. He is the only one who came down to the committee to testify, because there were members on the committee, and myself sitting in the audience, who could have raised too many issues that the older ones would have had to deal with. But on this specific matter Senator Labeledz had mentioned that she wouldn't want to be in a position to vote for only one person on the county board. She doesn't want to have just one person representing her. There are ethnic