

February 21, 1991 LB 20, 147

legislation. It says, payment of jurors for service in the district and county courts shall be made by the county, it shall be made by the county. Oh, how easy it is for us to sit here and to spend another entity's money. We are mandating to these counties a tax increase. The citizens of this state, quite frankly, and I'm sure you are aware of this, are tired of tax increases. Over a five-year period this is going to cost the counties \$2,945,310, almost \$3 million. In Douglas County alone over a five-year period it is going to cost \$1,380,000 increase in taxes. At the present time there are 20 counties in the State of Nebraska that are at or one cent from the legal mill levy limit of 50 cents. If we keep on acting and mandating to the counties tax increases, they are going to come before this body and ask for an increase in their mill limit. Over this five-year period this is 120 percent increase in taxes to the counties. I personally feel this is wrong at this time for the state to mandate a tax increase for each and every county in the State of Nebraska and I ask you to not advance this piece of legislation. To go a step further, if you look at the committee statement, there were no proponents of this legislation. No one showed up from the county clerk's office, the county election office, the county judge's office, no one showed up and said, yes, we need an increase; yes, people are demanding this increase. No one showed up to do this. I have had no one approach me for an increase so I feel personally, and I'd like to have you vote no to advance this piece of legislation as I don't think we should mandate a tax increase to all the counties in the State of Nebraska at this time. I withdraw my amendment. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Haberman has withdrawn his motion for a specific amendment. Mr. Clerk, proceed.

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read LB 147 on Final Reading.)

PRESIDENT MOUL: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB 147 pass? All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: (Read record vote. See pages 751-52 of the Legislative Journal.) The vote is 28 ayes, 16 nays, 2 present and not voting, 3 excused and not voting, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: LB 147 passes. LB 20E.