

central assessment by the state or do you think this is just a fear that is always in there?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, I answer that question this way. I do have a bill that goes for central assessment and I've never chose to introduce it...

SENATOR VRTISKA: And bring all the assessors into Lincoln, I assume.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, it's always nice to see them, but the trouble with moving to central assessment, obviously, is there's many other things that have to occur to do that and, to a certain extent, you know, I get assessors who talk to me privately saying, boy, we wish there was some way we could do central assessment to take the heat off of me. I can classify property, but you start talking about coefficient of dispersion, you start talking about price differentials, you start talking about those things and that's really hard for me to deal with with my staff and deal with my people. And central assessment is going to take a step, in my mind, that you're going to have...if you're going to do it, there's got to be other purposes to do it. I think the state should be reluctant to do central assessment for a little while till we get some handle on what we want to do with property tax because if we're going to make major shifts in property tax, central assessment could be a real waste of time to do at the state level because we're going to be more interested in other areas and say, look, that's completely a county tax, let them deal with it. We won't be so interested in equalization, but until we get over the hump of what we're going to do with property tax, I think central assessment is not in the cards to do and this deals with appeals. This is not...

SENATOR VRTISKA: I understand. I understand that. I just...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: (Inaudible). It gets expensive.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I only brought the question to you because it was posed to me when the discussion from assessor was that this is just another one of those ploys to get centralized...central assessment and, you know, I just wanted you to know, and I'm sure you've heard it as well as I have. I just want to finish up by saying somewhat what Senator Brown or whoever it was...