

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR ABOUD: Senator Kristensen, I've tried to follow your amendment. Could you tell me what is the amendment going to do to the fiscal note on this bill? Will it...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, it depends on what we do in the A bill, Senator Abboud. What this amendment does is just strike the reference to tying them to the Supreme Court. What we've talked about on the floor now with the people who have been interested is to, in the A bill, establish a salary grade or a comparable salary and treat them as a regular state employee and not treat them as a judge type pay system, as you know, that only gets changed like every four years or something like that. And to the extent that that's really what they're doing, I think the majority of the people have been comfortable in saying treat them as a state employee, let's find the appropriate pay grade. In any event, it's going to drive the...I mean I think it's going to drive the A bill and the fiscal note down. We also are going to drive the fiscal note down by charging the small fee for filing the appeals.

SENATOR ABOUD: Okay. A second question. I've been listening to the bill and the question I would like to know is, or the answer to this question is, let's assume LB 490 becomes law of the state. How will that impact my property taxes in Douglas County, or in any county around the state? Are my property taxes going to go up as a result of the passage of this bill?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, Senator Abboud, it depends on what your individual property tax situation is. Is your property and your home fairly and equitably valued with those in the same class?

SENATOR ABOUD: Well, what will it do...let's take...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I mean if it is then you won't...you'll see no change. If your property is over valued it's going to drive your value down if you...

SENATOR ABOUD: Well let's...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...if you protest.