

just say, no, not going to do it, we're not going to ever do this, we're going to negotiate all the time, and then they'd negotiate higher fees and so the fear of the subdivisions, and I mean I... I hope I'm being fair to them, their fear was that it would always be resolved in negotiation to their detriment and so they wanted that...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS One minute.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...out of there. The newspapers saw this, that that could work both ways. They could also probably be in to giving lower rates just to get the work, because the people could have had some other alternative or they could have went to another newspaper, you know, all those sorts of things.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But if the political subdivision didn't want to negotiate for a higher rate, wouldn't they have had the alternative under the statute of substituting...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yeah, to go in the...

SENATOR BEUTLER. ...legal notice by posting?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yeah. And, of course, that doesn't, you know, in real term...

SENATOR BEUTLER: And giving them that alternative, doesn't that put downward pressure on...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Would put downward...

SENATOR BEUTLER. ...on the price?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, I think it'd put downward pressure and I think that'd be to the detriment of the newspaper perhaps, you know, and I think that's what the newspapers were looking at, that that negotiation phrase had a good and bad to it, that was the double-edged sword, but the fear of the political subdivisions was enough that...and, you know, I really (inaudible)...

SPEAKER WITHEM PRESIDING

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.