

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: (Laugh) Oh, I think it probably...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mean, tell me, tell me, remind me...remind me again why it is we just don't let the free enterprise system operate here.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, I think primarily it's always been that... that there's been a give and a take and historically this has been sort of a standard price so that in one county your legal rates aren't sky high. In other words, they're going to say look for, because we know that they're private individuals, the notice for an incorporation in our newspaper is going to be a dollar a line because they're in business and why not soak it, we can get it out of them. You got to the next county and they say, well, we like to encourage business and we're going to give that a nickel, that be a loss-leader for us. So you'd have that wide disparity of treatment and there was no certainty of that... of that publication rate. With the subdivisions, you know, it's a matter of... I think that that creates readership for the newspaper. It's always been a good working relationship and I think historically when the... when the... you know, when you set a rate every six or eight years like this, usually less, that at the beginning years you probably get the better end of the stick and at the end of the years you'll lose in money and if you go too long then, you know, that's when you've got to make a big jump and that's what's so difficult to do. So I think it benefits both. I think historically the newspapers have been interested in doing some public service and saying, look, we're willing to take less money but it helps us because of readership and it does give us some cash flow.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Thank you for the time and the explanation, Senator.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Avery.

SENATOR AVERY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members, I... I brought a bill this year that I was concerned in terms of referendums, petitions and constitutional amendments to... to Senator Bud Robinson's clinic or to his committee and the concerns that I had is that we change, we make some changes in the process in the way we're doing business. We're supposedly in a technology era. Senator Robinson had a bill here that we were spending