

February 26, 1996 LB 1248

in to give some guidance for us and what I am looking at for Select File. I will do that in just a minute. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Madam Lieutenant Governor. I believe this is a good change in the amendment for the simple fact that we will now be able to have a loan, and I think that that, in the long run, would be better anyway. It would give them a little chance to regroup their finances, because as I understand listening to the testimony in the committee from the people, the county commissioners from Richardson County, they have a loan right now from the bank and it can only be for a year at a time. They have to rewrite the loan yearly, so I believe that this avenue is...it'd be much more satisfactory to me, actually I think that it should probably be just a straight loan anyway, which would give those counties that are in trouble just a little bit more time to regroup themselves when they come under the devastation such as the weather, the rains, and so on, that washed out all these bridges and roads, and then with their trials and so on, why I believe if they were given a period of years, say ten years, to repay those loans, I think it would be much better off, and I thank Senator Vrtiska for bringing this minor change, although as far as I am concerned, it is a major change from a grant or loans to be established for those counties that are in a particular type of trouble Richardson County is. So I will be supporting the Vrtiska change in the amendments. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I want to ask Senator Vrtiska a question or two about the idea of counties getting loans. Well, it's not just counties but cities and villages, too. Under the law, currently, can counties, cities and villages get loans from the state?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, Senator Chambers, what I...the purpose of this...the whole purpose of this addition or this amendment relates back to prior wording in the bill, or in the amendment that now becomes the bill, where it talks about the