

optional with each county and shall occur in any county only upon adoption of a majority of the vote of the voters voting on the question of that particular county. The county administrative form of government would provide for an adequate and efficient provision of services to the citizens in this state. It provides for coordinated administration of county departments to better protect the health, welfare, safety, and quality of life of the residents. The county administrator form of government would place in the hands of a county administrator the multitudes of duties which must necessarily arise from the operation of a county as a unit of local government and thus enables the board of county commissioners to perform freely without unnecessary interruption its fundamental intended purpose of making policies within the framework of law applicable to county government in this state. A county administrator form of government provides a formula and structure for the economic and efficient conduct of county affairs by making the county administrator responsible for handling all things necessary to accomplish and bring to fruition the policies established by the board of county commissioners. This particular concept is not new, it is not something that has never been tried before in the state of Nebraska. And to give you a little history and background about county administrative form of government, in 1993 (sic), the Legislature passed an act which authorized any county in the state to adopt the county manager form of government by popular vote. In 1933, Douglas County voted to adopt the county manager form of government. In 1935, Thomas J. O'Connor sought to file as a candidate for the register of deeds, but the election commissioner refused to accept his filing on the grounds that the work of the register of deeds would be performed by or under the direction of the county manager and that the adoption of the manager plan had suspended elections to the office. Mr. O'Connor then turned to the courts, the courts said the Legislature had no authority to authorize a county to adopt the county manager plan, which says why today we're here. In 1939, the Legislature amended Article IX, Section 4, which would have authorized the Legislature to provide for an optional county form of government in which county officers might either be elected or appointed. In the general election in 1940 it was defeated, 124,829 for and 170,883 against. In 1990...in 1942, the same amendment was on the general election ballot and was defeated by a vote of 125,513 for and 160,801 against. So it lost two times in a row, gained a little votes each time with