

March 19, 1996

LB 1085

political ramifications that we know will be there? The question is,...

SENATOR BEUTLER: The...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ..might this worsen the present situation?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I don't see how it would worsen the present situation. If you...if your main concern is as you described it, then the current situation is not good from your perspective. I think that this does not worsen it in the sense that it makes it better in the sense that at least it's asking these counties to look around and see what the situation is around them. Under the current law and without pressure on property taxes, there's nothing that really encourages them to look around.

SENATOR WILL: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: In fact, almost everything encourages them not to look around, all of the other political factors that come to play in that kind of situation.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Since we're dealing with county boards, what is there that would motivate county board members to initiate this action?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, Senator, I'm assuming that the county board members are the same as us in the sense that they desire to provide services efficiently, as efficiently as possible to their citizens, and obviously there are other factors that play against that to a certain extent, but I think they have that motivation also. That's probably their primary motivation...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, and I got...

SENATOR BEUTLER: (inaudible).

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ..my light on again, but if we're interested in providing services and doing the right thing I wonder why we, as a state, will not even consider raising the minimum wage.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Warner on the Beutler amendment.