

of a consolidation issue to the voters is important. It allows the voters also the ability to file a petition of registered voters equal to 10 percent of those voters (sic) cast in the Governor's election to begin some of their own consolidation and demand that a county board be able to do that. Those are things we've never been able to do in the past. If people want to do some...

SENATOR WILL: Time.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ..consolidation they can do so.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Beutler, in LB 1085 there's a provision for removal from office if the people on the board do not make a good faith effort to get this show on the road, so I want to ask about your amendment. Suppose the county boards... Okay, I'm just mentioning that because I want to ask you about your amendment. If a county board refuses to undertake to do what your amendment says, there is no sanction, is there?

SENATOR WILL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, if you could refer me to the section of the bill that you're referencing it would be helpful.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, on page 9...

SENATOR BEUTLER: My amendment, in and of itself, you're right, has no sanction.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Page 9, starting in line 8, and the sanction part I'm talking about begins in line 11: "Failure by the county board to make a good faith effort to develop an agreement pursuant to the petition constitutes willful neglect of duty for which the members of the board may be removed from office pursuant to" the following sections. Now, your amendment does not tie into that, so there really is no sanction if a county board would not thoroughly examine this question of whether or not consolidation would result in property tax reductions.

SENATOR BEUTLER: That's accurate, Senator.