

Bernard-Stevens amendment addresses, I want to make it clear that when I was talking about the number of county commissioners, I didn't necessarily mean that there should be a combining of the two boards and have a super board which consists of the number of the two boards combined. If one county had five, and the other county, Douglas, has seven, you would not arrive at a board of 12 members. But by the same token, I would not want anybody to get the impression that when the two counties merge you can reduce the number below seven. Under the law now a county of more than 300,000 has a county board of seven members. And if it merged with or consolidated with one, two, three, or however many counties, there would still have to be seven members, there couldn't be fewer. But in talking again about what Senator Bernard-Stevens amendment does, I want to make a declaration, and I hope Senator Wickersham is paying attention. Senator Wickersham, I'm not an odds maker, so that's not why I intend this. I'm arrogant. Nothing is going to happen under this bill, nothing. But since we're legislating I'd like us to get language that is suitable to the purpose. There is not going to be any merging or any consolidating of the counties for sure, that's the main thing I'd look at, that's not going to happen. If you talk about consolidating within a county, all of these various positions which currently are elected on a partisan basis, you're not going to get rid of these partisan offices and put them all under one king or one queen, that is not going to happen. Now there might be some relatively minor county functions that would be consolidated, but if it were within the county, the county can do that anyway. You're talking, in that instance, if I understand the bill correctly, about activities in two or more counties that adjoin. And they would consolidate some function. And I don't know what function it is that they're going to consolidate, I don't even believe that will happen. Maybe if they have a fence row, have some barbed wire fence, . . . Senator Jones, you may know this. Senator Jones, do counties ever erect fences on county land? Do you know?

SENATOR JONES: Yes, they do, along the county roads.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do they ever use barbed wire fence?

SENATOR JONES: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So maybe they could have a fence that would