

They would have to settle the issuance of government in terms of who is going to control, but there is nothing here that says that if you merge those that you can't have an office here or there for the delivery of services, absolutely not.

SENATOR JONES: I think that's what they were talking about, just for delivery of services. I think they'd probably have to come, you know, about everything else, like the county sheriff would probably be over the three counties in place of one, but they would have to just come there for services maybe to get their license or something like that. I don't know just what all they were thinking about on the satellites.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, there is...there is a lot of utility for the filing of certain documents that you can do centrally. For example, if you are going to note liens, do those sorts of things, that's something that can be done centrally in one location. However, perhaps they'd want an office open that could...pick up their license plates and payment of taxes and register a car without traveling some miles. That may be one that you'd leave. The key is that you've got the flexibility to do that, and 1058 (sic) allows those mergers, but still allows them to determine how they are going to deliver those services.

SENATOR JONES: Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Madam Chairman. Senator Kristensen, you seem to be on the spot here answering some questions. We've heard the various discussions about mergers. In instances in the western part of the state where a county has a small population density, and adjacent counties, perhaps, one on one side, one on another side, perhaps above, below, or on either side of the county has some attraction also, is it possible to, in this scenario, similar to what school districts do, if a county decides that it wants to make a change the way it's governed, could a part of one county go with one and a part go with another county, where you didn't actually merge two whole counties, but made two counties out of three?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: That's going to require a couple of different things to occur. One is the very next bill, it's a constitutional amendment that allows some of these