

March 19, 1996

LB 1114
LR 292

would urge you to defeat the amendment that Senator Brown has brought in. Thank you.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Elmer. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask Senator Kristensen a question, if I may.

SENATOR WILL: Senator Kristensen, will you respond?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR DIERKS: Senator Kristensen, the four counties that I represent are all township counties. They are set up with supervisors. They have various degrees of development in the townships. Many of them have their own maintain...road maintainers. They have...we ever have some libraries that are township libraries, and these people are telling me they have a great deal of difficulty with this legislation. Has there been any provision made with the legislation that is being developed here today or this year to compensate these entities? How do they, for instance, the libraries, how are they going to be continue to be funded?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: In this constitutional amendment, all we are doing is removing their constitutional presence. We are not doing away with them. It's my guess that the bill that they have some problem with, Senator Dierks, is probably LB 1114 when we begin to talk about levy limitations and their ability to tax. And whether that, whether that's independent of the county under LB 1114, that's going to come under some restrictions and you'll give the county more of a say-so or the controlling voice on what's included. But this particular constitutional amendment doesn't do away with them. It just takes away their presence in the constitution. So we don't strike and get rid of the counties in the statutes.

SENATOR DIERKS: You are going to have to tell me that again. I don't know how you can...I don't know how you cannot do away with them but do away with them.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Okay, this constitutional amendment strikes out Section 5 which, basically, says the Legislature shall provide for townships, and that is the sum and substance of it.