

March 19, 1996

LB 1114
LR 292

It is longer, but we're removing that from the constitution to allow for the consolidation of townships, or if we deem to get rid of townships at some point in time, that you can do that as a matter of consolidating. Your townships should be concerned about LB 1114, perhaps, which is the levy limit bill that's down the line here a little bit.

SENATOR DIERKS: Okay, so the constitutional amendment doesn't actually do away with townships?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: No, it does not.

SENATOR DIERKS: They will still be legal and they can function the way they have?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes, and that will be done through statute, which is still...we still have statutory language that creates and allows them to operate.

SENATOR DIERKS: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR WILL: Senator Dierks. Senator Crosby, on the Brown amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Will, and don't go away, Senator Kristensen. One of the things that Senator Brown mentioned when she introduced her amendment is that we've always had a uniformity clause in the constitution since day one, as if it's sacrosanct and we have never changed it since then. That's not so, and I wish you would just take the time to explain, you don't need to name all those amendments, but like in '52, '54, '60, clear up to 1990 and '92, we voted on changes, plus it says in the article, I am looking at the constitution, itself, on page 35, Article VIII, it says, upon all...except as otherwise...taxes shall be levied by valuation uniformly, etcetera, upon all real property, and so on, as defined by the Legislature except as otherwise provided in or permitted by this constitution, and I think it goes on in different places to say that the Legislature may change it. So would you talk about that just a little bit to be sure I understand, too.

SENATOR WILL: Senator Kristensen, will you respond.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Okay.