

March 25, 1996

LB 1050, 1177

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I will just go off and let you answer later, Senator Kristensen. Thank you for the time.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator McKenzie.

SENATOR MCKENZIE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, I wanted to add one other policy issue that I think LB 1177 represents that is a good policy. We spent a great deal of time last week discussing the equity issue behind LB 1050. And my interest in this particular bill came from the revenue meetings a couple years ago where we were looking at counties and cities and expenditures and tax levies, and what seemed obvious at the time was that those political subdivisions, like schools before 1059, in many cases, are taxing themselves at a very high rate to provide minimum services because they have low valuation. I think the other important discussion to consider in LB 1177 and in the committee amendments is this issue of equity. If we require basic services as we require basic services in schools, then I believe we have to look at those municipals who are having a difficult time funding those services because they have low valuation. I would rise to support the committee amendments and ask for your support.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator McKenzie. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR WILL: Senator Kristensen, will you respond?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes, Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I didn't get...I didn't...unfortunately, I didn't get all of your comments when you were describing...

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Then you probably aren't confused so. (Laughter)

SENATOR VRTISKA: The only thing...the only question I had was regard to the equalization which, if I read this right, there's 5 million dollars, is that?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: There's going to be approximately 10.5 million dollars and this was back to Senator Wehrbein's