

literally become a very important part of that concept of balancing the impact as far as where taxes are paid and where the services are provided. And for those reasons I will continue to support the adoption of the committee amendments as well as the bill.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Robak.

SENATOR ROBAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. Well, I had my light on once before but I thought we were talking about the committee amendments, but I guess we've all been addressing the bill so I will too. I oppose the committee amendments and I also oppose the bill. I have so many letters right in front of me and telephone calls were also there opposing this bill. So I kind of have to sort them out a little bit. And I, too, was a little bit concerned about having LB 1059. Maybe we ought to retire that number as Senator Crosby said because everybody seemed to have that confused with LB 1059, the school finance bill a few years back. And some of the reasons why my district is opposing this bill is it isn't really a property tax relief bill, it's just a shift. And it's the tune of 20 or 30 million dollars and I don't believe the state has that much money right now. The loss of local control, for instance, the loss of services due to the restructuring of regions, and local vision for senior populations is another thing that should be talked about. If the regional system were abolished, there...only the elected officials directly supervising these services would be the Governor in Lincoln, maybe that would be a good idea, Senator Wesely, I'm not sure. I'm trying to sort through this. I believe your bill gives at large committee powers...committee appointment powers to the Governor positions that are now filled by citizens that represent specific regions of the state. The current process assures that rural and outstate populations have a say in those programs and services that affect their communities. The counties are relieved of financial burden, property taxes are reduced you say and the state will take care of everything. If that sounds too good to be true, it usually is. Again, it's just a shift, it's not a property tax relief. I believe the control of health and human services programs should stay at the county level with the local state partnership assisting in the guiding of policy development and service delivery. In a town...in a time of downsizing the government it makes sense to leave these duties at the county level. Also, Senator Wesely,