

giving it to the state, there will be a resulting substantial property tax relief. These bills are smoke. They use the property tax Jolly Roger flag to get this bad ship through. Counties are all...continuing reading from the bill, "Counties are also responsible for financial contributions for county residents receiving services at the Beatrice State Developmental Center and the regional centers. The Legislature further finds that by eliminating reliance on property tax revenue and county support for such programs administrative and program cost savings and other efficiencies will occur." Why do they even talk about property tax? Because the bill cannot stand on its own bottom. There are a lot of bad notions in all of these so-called property tax bills. I mentioned earlier that a study was undertaken which used a lot of words and explanation to show what I had said, and I'm sure others agree that that is...these bills are not going to result in any substantial property tax relief. So if the bill, this one, as 1044, is really designed to streamline government or consolidate services or put more power into the hands of fewer, that's what they ought to say and try to win the argument on that basis. But instead, property tax relief is given as the main argument in support of these bills, and I don't think that's valid. My amendment that we're considering now was for the purpose of calling attention to what I see as a poorly thought-out approach, at worst, an insincere and misleading approach. If there was genuine interest and concern, what I'm offering as an amendment would have been included in the bill. Senator Matzke and others have supported an amendment which I don't feel able to support because I don't want to make a bad bill better. I've done it in the past,...

SENATOR WILL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...it has been a blunder. And some people who had valid reasons to oppose the bill lost those reasons due, in part, to amendments that I would offer when I didn't even like the bill at all. So this is one that I'm going to try to spotlight problems with, but I do not intend to help. So, Mr. President, I withdraw that amendment.

SENATOR WILL: The amendment is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk, are there further amendments? We're back on the committee amendments then. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Will. Senator Chambers, I