

April 2, 1996

LB 1114, 1177

police do it all, to fit in that. Or, they can have some other joint venture where they all work together. Instead of being on patrol at the same time, they can do it once. It's going to make those communities do that. And that's the reason that LB 1177 doesn't have a hundred percent of reimbursement right now, is that you're going to allow over the next two years the chance for people to examine how they're doing business. It is not going to be the death of small towns. They are not going to dry up because of this issue. There's a lot of other reasons people leave small towns. Some of them are that the...they feel there's no opportunity, there's bigger opportunities somewhere else, and you know that that's a natural tendency. But these limitations aren't going to have an impact on that, those tendencies are going to continue. But what this allows is the structure, and it gives us an average levy that we try to target it here, that's going to treat everybody the same. The other argument that I think is out there is if we're going...

SENATOR COORDSEN: One minute.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: If we're going to classify by size of community, their levy limitation, what's also going to happen is probably the best way to give the aid in LB 1177 is to base that on classification as well. And then what will happen there is the larger communities will get more of that because of the size, and you won't be able to pick and choose who you're going to help get through this transitional period. So I know that it...you've been lobbied extremely hard, extremely hard, but this is one of those issues where I think you have to keep it here on the floor of the Legislature and try to maintain the levy limitations that are across the board. They're fair. Are they difficult? Yeah, they are. But these small towns will be able to cope with that. That's the reason we have LB 1177. That's the reason that we're eventually probably going to put more resources into that if we really are going to go wholesale and try to close down these communities. But they're going to have to look at their operations first. That's the reason...

SENATOR COORDSEN: Time.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...we look up ahead and not increase the taxes first and give it to them.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator