

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

February 17, 1999 LB 461

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And I will offer an amendment to that effect, and then maybe I will let the bill go ahead and move at this point without further attempts to amend it. But I am going to look at it. However, to resume what I was saying about these political subdivisions, they're always saying, we don't want these mandates, and so forth. People voluntarily seek these positions; then they don't want to discharge the responsibilities because they are too onerous. They say, well, now that I'm here, I don't really want to do what I knew was going to be required of me at the time. The requirement in this bill says that this outfit must embrace more than one county, so it could be two counties. And the people involved could be right across the road from each other, theoretically speaking, from one county to the other. So we're not always talking about these huge distances. And that is one of the problems with this kind of legislation--we're always presented with the worst possible scenario, somebody going all the way from Scottsbluff to the bank of the Missouri River, just outside Omaha. And that's not what is going to be the ordinary situation. So in order to let the bill be discussed I'm going to try to craft an amendment dealing with that building aspect of it so it won't get away from General File without that much being done. And I assure Senator Cudaback that at this point I'm not going to offer any additional amendments.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Senator Chambers, are you going to take that amendment up to the desk now, before we vote on the committee amendment? I will keep talking then and.... (Discussion away from microphone.) Yes. Yes. Okay. Okay. While they're working out the amendment, I would like to call your attention to the existing statute, which was set up when we set up videoconferencing. And just to make sure that you know what is entailed here in having one of these kind of telephone meetings, reasonable advance publicized notice is given, reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear and speak at the meeting, including seating, recordation by audio or visual recording devices, and a reasonable opportunity for input, such as public comment or questions, to at least the same extent as