

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

March 19, 1999 LB 72, 73

county attorneys, I'll tell them, speak now or forever hold your peace, 'cause I'm not going to bring the bill back again over and over and over. Not only is it not the right thing to do as far as I'm concerned, but I'm generally not treated in a way that's right, it's not a proper use of this procedure and the process. I don't like to have a bill printed then bring it back again, have it printed, then bring it back again. I'd say, go on and vote. And if the county attorneys can persuade the body to kill the bill, then on Final Reading it will not get enough votes to pass. And I will accept that as one of the vagaries of being a member of the Legislature. But I remember things. My request is that this amendment be adopted.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. For discussion on Amendment 852 to LB 72, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator (sic) Maurstad, members of the Legislature, this morning was the first time I ever paid any attention or knew about or knew LB 73 was on the floor, and it's on Final Reading. I'm very concerned about the developing situation here, because Senator Chambers feels that Lancaster County, a county I represent, was not dealing fairly on this matter. And I think there has been some misunderstanding here in the sense that the county attorney from Lancaster County did participate in this matter, and, as I understand it, has come to some resolution of the matter. However, for whatever reason, the county board itself was never consulted on this matter, and the matter potentially involves an additional expense to the counties, potentially. So the county itself felt that it had a right to bring this matter before the Legislature, and I agree with them. Now, having said that, I think there is a solution to this problem, because I don't think that anybody disagrees with the intent or the thrust or most of the details of what Senator Chambers is attempting to do. From the perspective of Lancaster County and the financial situation, they feel what I think smaller counties probably would feel in spades, that is murder trials, murder investigations, everything having to do with such a serious matter are expensive. You may recall in Richardson County we actually passed a bill in this Legislature to help them out with some of their expenses, 'cause it was so expensive. A special prosecutor with three police officers, that does represent, in my opinion, a potential additional