

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

March 22, 1999 LB 142

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Any objections to the substitution?

SENATOR BEUTLER: That's right.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: So ordered.

CLERK: Senator Beutler offers FA57, and pursuant to its offer would move to suspend Rule 7, Section 7 to permit consideration of this particular floor amendment. (See FA57 on pages 1119-1120 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler, you're recognized to open on your motion to suspend the rules.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kristensen, members of the Legislature, Senator Wehrbein suggested, and perhaps he's right, that it's better to go about it by simply suggesting to you a suspension of the rules rather than overruling the Chair, so that is what is before you at the moment. The amendment that would be before you, should you allow the suspension of the rules for discussion, would be the same amendment that I just described to you, except a change in the dollar amount. What it would do would be to take out of the general aid to cities and to counties \$700,000 from each one of those entities, and to give...transfer the total, \$1.4 million, to the NRDs. So we'd be giving the NRDs a little less money than what was previously proposed to you in the amendment that was ruled out of order. Again, I would like to emphasize to you the importance of this matter. And, if we can get to a discussion on the merits of these amendments that I have before you, I think we can have some interesting discussions about what's going on and what needs to be done. The...when you're on procedural matters like this, the debate tends to get chopped up, depending on who wants to make what point first and get it in before the procedural motion is over. But you have had passed out to you a chart, and this is the only point I want to make, that indicates that the NRDs would have to increase property taxes, which is bad enough, but it does purport to indicate that, with all but one exception, they could survive by increasing property taxes. And that may be true insofar as you would want to do that in that only one of the NRDs currently would be losing money. In other