

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

May 4, 1999

LB 142, 880

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is withdrawn.

CLERK: And you wanted to substitute for this amendment, is that right?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes, please.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Without objection, so ordered.

CLERK: Senator Wickersham, Mr. President, would move, Senator Raikes and Senator Wickersham would move to amendment with AM1609. (See page 1829 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Raikes, you yield to Senator Wickersham. Senator Wickersham, you're recognized on Amendment 1609.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. This amendment doesn't cost anything, doesn't change the budget at all. The budget amounts don't change. What this amendment does is move money around in the budget. What the amendment does is reverse a decision to add \$1.6 million in state aid to NRDs and to give that...and to take that \$1.6 million from an aid program for counties. So as the budget now stands, counties get \$1.6 million less, NRDs get \$1.6 million more in state aid. The amendment simply reverses that. NRDs would get the same amount of state aid that they always did. Counties wouldn't lose \$1.6 million in aid. They're still going to lose some because there is another part of the budget that takes \$4.2 million away from them for extra funding for community colleges. The issue is one that you've heard about before and it relates to motor vehicle taxes and the constitutional amendment that was passed and the effects of LB 142 that is now sitting on Select File. It is true that community coll...that the NRDs would lose about \$1.6 million in motor vehicle taxes. They also have the resources to make up for that loss out of the property tax base. They will not, with one exception, and there is a packet that we've handed out to you, they will not, with one exception, probably suffer any consequences at all if we don't give them an additional \$1.6 million in aid. On the other hand, counties will, believe it or not, and you'll probably hear otherwise, but that isn't