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LB 36

So again, we have...in my estimation, we have made significant efforts to provide processes so that property owners can protect their interests. And at the same time, we have made significant efforts to provide a nonpolitical, professional process where we can achieve a much better result in terms of statewide equalization of values, so that we do not impinge unfairly upon any taxpayers, let alone the homeowners in Douglas County.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Senator Suttle.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. You know, Senator Kristensen is probably right. I know that Douglas County senators are probably not getting a whole lot of sympathy from the rest of the state. But you have to remember that we had an assessor for 20 years who was...and why we elect assessors, why we don't make them civil servants and have them do their own thing and do their job properly, I don't know, but we elect everything and everybody in this state. And we had an assessor who ran...I mean, I have heard the argument that, well, Douglas County always voted for that guy. Well, how are you going to vote for someone who says, I'm going to make sure that your property taxes are valued at the very highest rate they can possibly be valued, and I'm going to raise your property taxes so that you will have to pay higher taxes? Or would you vote for Mr. Bemis, who said, I will make sure the valuations don't go up so your property taxes don't go up, so vote for me? Well, being the people that we are in Douglas County, we voted for the person who said that he's not going to raise our taxes. Therefore, we find ourselves in this kind of a bind. He finally had the smarts to leave the office, and we elected another one who did say, I'm going to make equalization a high priority; I am going to make this office efficient; I am going to make us, as taxpayers, responsible for our fair share. And all this amendment is doing...I did write to the TERC commission and ask them to please allow Mr. Morrissey the time to achieve what he is trying to achieve. I'm sure that a dime will buy you a cup of coffee, but I did write to them. And I do ask you to give the poor city folk, as Senator Chambers calls us, a chance to allow our assessor to do the work that we elected him to do, and allow this...if not this particular amendment, although I do support this amendment...if our valuation does go up, then we will have at least keep our bill