

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

May 18, 1999

LB 881

assessment functions; one of the things we're to do would allow counties to lose or to let the assessment function be taken over by the state. Again, why? To reduce property taxation and to gain better functions. So when people talk about we've not done anything for property tax relief, I've got three more pages, but ten minutes isn't going to let me get through those. There's a big effort. What's the piece of the puzzle this year? The Governor has come in, in a good faith attempt, I think a good faith attempt,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: ...and talked about direct relief. And, Senator Quandahl, I'm going to apologize to you, because I was going to give you some of my opening, and I want to recognize before my minute is up and thank you for prioritizing this. And I...I'll get to you, but I want to finish this piece, that this was a direct response and a direct check back for property taxes, so people would have some appreciation. Because what...this whole litany that I've just gone through, why did I go through that? My guess is that not many of us remember we did those things. And we continue to apologize that we've not done anything, we're going to do it. We have, we've done lots of things. The trouble is we may not know what the...we may not know what the problem we're trying to solve is, we may not be able to identify that. The Governor came in with this proposal and said, look, one of the ways to make people appreciate property tax is to give them a direct check back, maybe they will understand then and realize what that money was for. That's not what we're going to do today.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: But today we're going to start on what I believe to be this year's piece of property tax. Senator Quandahl, I'll...I hope that you get a chance, and I want to thank you for prioritizing it.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. To open on the committee amendments, Senator Wickersham. (AM1744, Legislative Journal page 2021.)