

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

May 18, 1999

LB 881

SENATOR BEUTLER: Um-hum.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: ...we're dealing with a relatively small number of institutions. And the formula has been tailored to...to fit those institutions. This does presume, though, that you've fixed the Western Community College problem that we have on Final Reading. That's got to go to make this work.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. But, basically, it's just a very simple mechanism of feeding a larger number into the computer system that currently does the state aid formula. Is that accurate?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. If that's the case, then why don't we use this mechanism for the second \$35 million of property tax relief? Because, as I understand it, the second portion of this involves some work by the counties, some division at the state level of property taxes by counties, and then reimbursing...reimbursing counties for credits that are going to be given on property tax statements. It involves changing property tax forms. It involves a whole new program, and 1 percent of it is going to the counties, and it's going to entail work on the part of the state. Why are we doing this? Why don't we just have the second year be community college reimbursement, too, and then Senator Wickersham's problem is solved, and Senator Kristensen's problem is solved, the communities colleges won't pop back up again, they will be where they were. So, that's my question to you, Senator Kristensen, why don't we just continue that program? It seems to me the simplest,...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: It...

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...the easiest to administer, and the most logical.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: That...you have hit on a discussion point that has occurred, at least when I sat on the Revenue Committee, that happened on several different occasions. There's another consideration that you have to factor into that in that,