

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

May 18, 1999

LB 881

if...you can do it a second year. You can buy down, in effect, buy down the levy with this mechanism. The problem is that sooner or later you're going to get to a...you're going to get so you take over the community college's function through a state aid formula. And they're going to be uncomfortable with that. What do you do with those that have purchased buildings and have a bond out there?

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: What do you do...does the state buy the buildings then? Because ultimately what you'd move to would be state takeover of the community college system. And for some areas of the state that would be a very welcome issue, for others that may not be as...that may not be as much property tax relief as they would like to see. They'd like to see it happen in other areas. The community colleges are probably the most uncomfortable at this point about going too far, because next year there's also a penny reduction in their levy, so that's going to happen anyway for property tax relief. The short answer is, yes, you could probably do it a second year, but the community colleges are probably going to get real uncomfortable if you're going to move towards state takeover and what do we do about local control, what do we do about buildings we've already paid for with property tax, and where do we go from here?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. I...I don't have much time left, and I have another question, but I will save it for my next opportunity.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Beutler. On the Kristensen amendment, Senator Wickersham? Senator Crosby, on the Wickersham amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I'm going to speak now and then I can hold my peace the rest of the day because I'm reading all the stuff that people are handing around, that I think some of it is relevant and some of it is not. But from the very beginning, I did like the idea of...the Governor's idea of sending money back in a check, some kind of hard cash rebate to the taxpayers. We've talked about this before and never have done it. And I want to warn you, and