

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

January 20, 2000 LB 289

in this case. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. The argument now is, if I get it right from Senator Wehrbein and Senator Schimek, and also the other supporters of the amendment, this will let...and Senator Baker as well, counties will get the benefit of using the state as a repository so that counties can learn what other counties are doing. The state's workload is going to expand. Our computer system is going to be used, but counties will file so that counties can learn what counties are doing, and for that reason, we should expand state law. These are from my conservative colleagues, Senator Baker, Senator Wehrbein, who regularly, I bet, tell us we shouldn't expand government unless there is a darn good reason to. And they probably, on other days, support privatization where government shouldn't expand by its boundaries when somebody else could do the work at least as well. And, let's see, counties doing work for counties to help them learn more about how to do their job well, and they're sitting out there and they're called the Nebraska Association of County Officials, which is exactly what they do. If you are a conservative, we don't need to expand government to do frivolous things. If there is somebody else who can do this function better than we can do it, if you're that kind of political figure, there is no reason to vote for this bill, because counties can talk to each other, they do it all the time, if they want to learn they can. They can be in contact with each other, and we don't have to create a repository and state business and state work for where there is no shown state interest but simply the ease and convenience of apparently County Officials, who testified in opposition to the bill. It's the Cattlemen, it's the Pork Producers, it's Farm Bureau, and I would like to have somebody from the ag community stand up and have the guts to admit the truth, because that's what is going on here, and I would like to hear it. That's the lobbyist out front who's doing it. I think we've identified it was the Cattlemen who stopped me. Could we at least have the truth spoken on the floor on their behalf? Because otherwise I haven't heard it. Can we at least admit that much and stop the charade that we're doing now? We can all...we can tolerate the