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LB 414

to me. It's the same in the sense, I suppose, that it affords property tax relief, but in that instance it's a situation where some get it and some don't, and you kind of leave it up to them, whether...you leave it up to the local county as to whether they want to give up a right in exchange for property tax relief. But a county assessor makes a lot of what I might call policy decisions. I mean, they're making decisions about the valuations of your house. A clerk of the county court is really not making any of those kinds of decisions and, to me, that fact coupled with the fact that it's uniformly applied...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...to everybody, it's not that some get the property tax relief and some don't, and coupled to the fact that the court system is essentially a state system and should be, in my opinion at least, supported by the state, those factors, in my mind at least, make this substantially different than a county assessor situation. But everybody will have to make their judgment about that. Thank you for the time.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Janssen and Senator Beutler. Senator Wehrbein, on advancement of LB 414.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I was less enthusiastic about this bill two or four years ago, whenever you first brought it, Chris, but I think I'm going to support it today. I wanted to ask you a couple questions. Then I want to visit...talk a little bit about it, so I don't want you give me my whole time. How did you arrive at the 7,000 population?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Would you respond, Senator Beutler?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes. Senator, we simply took that from existing law.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I didn't want to fool with what existing law was because I didn't understand enough about small counties to understand how they ever got the 7,000 figure to begin with