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LB 171

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...on the floor.

SENATOR CUDABACK: ...to a question?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Wickersham, to start with, with your amendment what happens to the fiscal impact of the bill? I think it was, what, at five...half a million or six hundred thousand in the original bill, something like that?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: What...what does this do to the fiscal impact?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Well, normally, I would say that the fiscal impact would lessen. However, based on the information that I think that Senator Kristensen has passed around, I would suggest that the fiscal note should increase. If you look at the fourth bullet point on the material that Senator Kristensen passed around, he indicates, if I'm reading this correctly, and I'm sure he will set things right if I'm not, it would cost each station approximately \$7 million to convert: \$2 million for a digital transmitter, \$2 million for master control equipment, and \$3 million for production equipment. Now there may be other things that they would have to buy as well, but I think the representation is that it would cost each station \$7 million. There are ten stations in the state of Nebraska. That's \$70 million. These are all located in municipalities that have local sales taxes. I think you can assume that a 6 percent rate would apply on average. Six percent on \$70 million is \$4.2 million.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kristensen, I didn't intend to slip over to you, but let me ask you if you concur with that fiscal note.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Would you yield, Senator Kristensen?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: I wasn't...I was discussing over here. I didn't hear Senator Wickersham. Did he try to...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Wickersham has indicated that...