

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

March 30, 2000 LB 803

AM3190 to be withdrawn.

SENATOR CUDABACK: They are withdrawn. We're now open for discussion on the committee amendments. Senator Lynch, on the committee amendments to LB 803.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. Chairman and members, I won't say much or talk long because it's my understanding that you're going to withdraw this anyhow. But just for the record as I sit here as an old county official, I can't help but think they're talking about creating county government. You know, we shouldn't have any more than one register of deeds. Well, that's all we've got. Now everybody within the city limits of Omaha has their deeds registered, and I could go down the whole litany of 11 constitutional responsibilities the county has. And I would just like to point out that we probably don't give our forefathers enough credit for being as smart as they really were because they wanted to create a system of government that would be a wholesaler of services at the local level for state and federal government. We've got that in the counties. Municipal governments came along, school districts came along, SIDs came along, fire hydrant districts came along, fire districts, anyway there's a whole litany of other lesser general purpose governments, but they existed because those things had to be done and they had to form a subdivision to do it, in some cases SIDs are the biggest number of subdivisions in Douglas County. All I would like to point out is that as we address how we can reform to make it better, jut think about it should be always and only addressed from a point of view of duplication, of duplication. You know, in Douglas County what do we have, nine school districts or whatever? I introduced a bill once to have one school district per county, discovered they had...eight counties only had one and some weren't big enough to even have one school district. But on the other hand, you know, we've thought about these things before. This is nothing new. And as long as I've been around, it's been talked about going back to the time Art Bradley (phonetic) was on the city council and we used to debate opposite sides and I served on the board with the Ford Foundation and I took either side of the merger issue. It's something you have to think about. It's something you have to talk about all the time. But for the most part as I sat here and listened this morning, I only turned my light on because I