

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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Small communities, small departments, they just simply can't exceed the dollars, and if they...they budget \$10,000 and it costs them \$1,000 to audit, that's a tenth of their budget. So it just makes sense here. And I hope you vote for the clarification. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Senator Vrtiska, on the advancement of LB 1304.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor. I also rise in support of this. It's interesting because there was some bit of confusion about the legislation that was passed before about the necessity of retaining a waiver, and many of the smaller departments were a little bit confused. This clears everything up. As Senator Cudaback said, it's ridiculous to make some of these small departments have to do these audits because of the expense incurred. So I stand in strong support of the advancement of this bill and passing it into law. Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Further debate on the advancement of LB 1304? Senator Janssen, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Mr. Speaker, members, this is something that needed to be addressed because...time does slip up on you, and it's been five years since this bill was in place and it needs a little fine tuning here. And I might add that these fire protection districts are not...they are...they are not home free, there is a disbursement verification form that each fire department or rural fire protection...fire department has to send in every year. So they...it's a form like this, the auditor looks at every one of those also and shows what's in their General Fund, Sinking Fund and so on and so forth, and the money that has been disbursed. So, they do send in something every year, but the full blown audit is what we're giving a waiver on, which we did in 1995, this just extends that and makes it permissible for that clock to start again. With that, I ask for your support of LB 1304. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Janssen. The question is the advancement of LB 1304 to E & R Initial. Those in favor