

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

February 11, 2003 LB 186

problems with junkyards along Department of Roads right-of-ways and so on, in one of your counties?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Yes, we have.

SENATOR BAKER: Has...what's happened down there? Can you briefly explain to us what's occurred?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, we had some problems. And when I say "we," the village of Table Rock asked the state to look into encroachment on the right-of-way, and also putting a boundary or a fence, privacy fence around a...well, some people would call it a junkyard; I guess, more properly, a salvage yard. And the state indicated that they would do it. They've been working on it for probably two years. And they did get some of the stuff removed off the right-of-way, but they never got the...all of the fence built.

SENATOR BAKER: Is that particular county zoned?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Yes, it's zoned.

SENATOR BAKER: Would they, in your estimation, have jurisdiction over this junkyard then also?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, I understand the zoning regulations allow them to do that. But it comes back to an issue, it's like a lot of issues, it's easier to have the state do these things than local zoning people. And so it's a question of if or whether either one can do it without expenditure of a huge amount of money. If you have to go into court to force some of these things, obviously it costs money.

SENATOR BAKER: Okay. Thank you. I think that points out the crux of this whole issue here. The State Department of Roads simply says, we don't need to have this jurisdiction anymore. It's not required of us. We're streamlining government here, and get it back to local control. And I will check to see how many counties and specifically which ones are not zoned. Maybe Senator Schimek has some answers here. But last list I saw, ...four I have here that are not zoned. I thought it was