

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

May 7, 2003

LB 540

understands that cities particularly cannot...cities and counties cannot automatically spend any additional sales taxes. As an example, if one of the 129 cities in Nebraska that do have a sales tax see these sales tax revenues increase, the city must cut back on one or more source of revenue, i.e., property tax. So this isn't increasing property taxes. This is allowing cities and counties that experience growth to spend more than the base limitation of two and a half percent. With a supermajority of the governing body, they could go to four and a half percent, rather than the three and a half percent we have today. With that, Mr. Speaker, I would urge the adoption of AM1660. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Mines. Senator Cudaback, followed by Senator Raikes.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Speaker, members, I guess this is an issue that we all see differently. I was going to talk on that last issue, but...and I was going to vote for the amendment, but Senator Raikes scared the heck out of me, so I voted against it, but. (Laughter) Like, with enemies...with friends like that, I don't know about enemies. But anyway, boards are a funny thing. Boards are a funny thing. I've served on a lot of boards in my life. Actually, we shouldn't have to have any limits on these things. We shouldn't have to...why should we have any? Think about it. Is that board, school board, town board, county board, any different than this board? This is a big board, 49 of us. We're a board. I guess maybe...I mean, I don't know of a...really, we don't know a difference. Why do we know more, you know, why do we know more maybe than the other ones? And I know why Senator Bourne introduced that bill, or that amendment. I know why he introduced it. I know why he introduced that, because he thinks that the school boards probably aren't doing their job. And I'm going to say, I better clarify that, if the shoe fits, wear it. I'll have all these school boards down here saying I don't know what I'm talking about. Maybe I don't. But school boards are getting a little bit...what? They're passing the buck, in other words. A lot of boards are passing the buck. I don't mean dollar-wise, but I mean they're passing the buck back to saying, oh, we...our hands are tied, our hands are tied. Our hands...their hands aren't tied. School boards have a lot