

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

May 7, 2003

LB 540

your...the quality of your life, because you develop that quest for knowledge. So I think our money should be spent on educating our children, and not on a lot of administrators. And we've got...I'm not saying anything against any of the administrators we have. But I don't think we need all of them, because you can do it more efficiently. And I think that's what they have to look at. But that's...when the school districts start cutting back, in most cases, the last place they look at cuts are administrators and support staff. You know, they're going to say, well, we're going to have to get rid of teachers, we have to do this, we have to do this, we have bigger class sizes, and so forth. And I don't think that's necessarily true. As far as this system has anything to do with the school bill, but I think, 93 counties, you know, we've got a lot of counties with...you know, some of them, like, so many under 1,000 people, some are 500 people. You know, with the technology today, there are so many things they could share back and forth. You know, they could...you know, one treasurer for two or three counties, or one assessor, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera. So there's all kinds of things they can share. And things aren't like they used to be, you know, 100 years ago, or 50 years ago. And it's sad in a lot of respects, because it would be nice to go back to those quiet times where everybody had their own school, they had their own...you know, the quiet time. But it's not there anymore. Times have changed, and not all for the good, but we have to change with the times. And so I think there's all kinds of efficiency we can find, without sacrificing the quality of our education. In fact, I think we could probably improve it. With that, I'd turn my...Senator Jensen, if you'd like to have some of my time, you can have it. Otherwise, I turn my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. A few years ago, I introduced a bill into the Education Committee that said we would have one school district per county. Senator Jensen, you're getting close to that; not quite where you should be. That wouldn't have meant that there would have been one school