

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

January 31, 2005 LB 261

been disbanded. And so since it isn't costing anybody any money, I don't see where we need to work and get involved in what is something that really isn't that important to us. To a matter of striking a few little words out of the statutes is about all it amounts to. If those land valuation boards aren't meeting and doing of any value, I'm sure the people involved will disband them in short order. So I, myself, I think this is something that we don't need to do, so I certainly am going to oppose this bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Loudon. Further discussion, Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. Again I want to emphasize that the survey that was done by NACO represented that 67 percent of those that responded were in favor of doing away with the boards. They have...they felt that they really have outlived their usefulness. And I did want to say something about the cost. I believe that some boards do put in for their expenses. There is a provision that says they may. But one of the things that I wanted to emphasize is that since they originated ten years ago, their duties and responsibilities were never clearly outlined. And this is not really a discussion between the assessors and the board of valuation. I do want to also make that clear. I do have a six-year history that we went back to look at the particular boards, and I don't see Senator Loudon on the floor right now, but in...between the years 1999 and through 2002, which were four years, there were no adjustments made. In 2004, there were no adjustments made. In the six-year history, they did make one adjustment. The NACO board recently took a position that they unanimously agreed to eliminate the boards, and so I think that sends a pretty strong message that we're all looking to try to find some efficiency in government and that we're looking at this. This is certainly one way that we can accomplish this. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Senator Hudkins.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Again I would like to ask some clarifying questions from Senator Stuhr.