

National Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation. This proposal is a straightforward and very simple thing that would allow local governments to comment on what goes on in state government. The A bill that would be appropriated for this issue when it reaches General File would be less than \$5000 or in that range. Simply, we are trying to pass out a bunch of things right now and I am sorry for being late which tends to also make me disorganized, more disorganized than normal, that is, and they are some letters from MAPA which is the Metropolitan Planning Agency, the City Council of Omaha, from Mayor Helen Boosalis of Lincoln and others who suggest that this proposal would be of benefit to them, would allow local governments to have input. The County Officials Association is supportive of the proposal. The League of Municipalities is supportive of the proposal, and I think that it is a good thing and I swear to all that are paying attention that it has nothing to do with any national organization which promotes regionalism. If anything, this will, in fact, promote a good cooperative relationship between state and local governments and that will support our traditional structure, our constitutional structure which improves the local government. So for that reason...and improves the state government, and for that reason would limit or significantly reduce the need for this belief in regionalism or whatever it is. With that, I urge the Legislature to bring LB 456 to the floor notwithstanding the committee's actions.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lundy and then Senator Landis.

SENATOR LUNDY: Mr. Speaker, I rise also to support LB 456. I think this is legislation that will help the cities, the school boards, the county governments to do a better job in the State of Nebraska. Twenty years ago the Interlocal Cooperation Act was introduced and passed by this Legislature. I think the bill was introduced by Senator Bridenbaugh, Senator Don McGinley and Senator Dick Marvel. Eleven years ago the Nebraska voters approved a constitutional amendment on the same subject matter. This year 456 was introduced as a bill to provide statutory authority for the Nebraska Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. As Senator Newell indicated, probably the bill had a...it was a misnomer for the title and certainly we want to at least let the full Legislature take a real hard look at this because we think that it will be good for the State of Nebraska. Senator Newell indicated that Omaha, Lincoln, the County Officials Association, the League of Municipalities and others have put their approval on this, the School Boards Association. I should also tell you that there are those urban areas outside of the metropolitan areas of Lincoln and Omaha that also wish this, including my home City