

January 16, 1996 LB 1209-1225
 LR 297, 299

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Madam President, members of the body, I think I was going to say amen, amen to what Senator Vrtiska said because one part that I see is this area of this resolution deals with cooperation and consolidation, and it's interesting, and I think Floyd hit it on the head as, you know, cut taxes but don't cut my program because my program is the most important, and I think that we, as a body, need the help of the other entities. We need the help of the NACO, the counties, we need the help of the cities, we need help of the school boards, so that they can really look at their problem, not how it affects them, but maybe the overall impact. And the consolidation has to be of a size that is manageable because I was involved in thirty years ago in consolidation and the unit was too small. We needed...and this involved schools, but I really think that we need to get their cooperation in looking at this rather than what Senator Vrtiska said, well, you know, do it but I need the money for my programs. So I think we need their cooperation and help us with this process if we want lower property taxes. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Mr. Clerk, items for the record.

CLERK: Madam President, thank you. A hearing notice from the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee for January 23. New bills. (Read LB 1209-1225 for the first time by title. See pages 416-19 of the Legislative Journal.) I have an appointment letter from the Governor, Madam President, to be inserted and a new CA, LR 299. (Read brief explanation. See pages 419-20 of the Legislative Journal.) That's all that I have at this time, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Pirsch, your light is next.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. We have really had a good discussion of what property tax is and I especially appreciate Senator Kristensen's reminding people that indeed property tax is a local tax. It is spent where it is raised for the services that the people in that subdivision want or demand or would like, and doesn't...isn't sent to Lincoln or Washington, D.C. to be spent for