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LB 1293

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Hartnett, will you yield?

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yes.

SENATOR JONES: Just as well stay right there because everybody's going to ask you...well, anyway, I've got a lot of volunteer fireman, clear across my area probably, more than paid. I guess my concern is that the state is going to furnish \$250, and they're supposed to dig up \$100 from the county. It'll be the county because they're under the county now.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah.

SENATOR JONES: They don't have their own mill levy.

SENATOR HARTNETT: What we...what we have said in the bill...if I can answer, Senator Jones. Could I answer?

SENATOR JONES: Yes.

SENATOR HARTNETT: What we do...say that a fire protection district is what you're talking about...those are the ones under the county...can request a waiver of the \$100 requirement based on the condition of genuine hardship which makes the contribution impossible. In other words, if there's not enough money in this...in the county for them to do it in a fire...in a fire protection district, then they can ask for waiver of the amount of money, the 100...the local match. They don't have to kick in the \$100, but they have to go to the state board and say...say that we don't have the money, and make a case for themselves.

SENATOR JONES: They could get a waiver how long? One year?

SENATOR HARTNETT: One year or it could be for a period...or it could be cut in half if they, you know, that it...it would be up to the state board to give them that waiver.

SENATOR JONES: I understand it's all volunteer.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah.