

January 29, 1974

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Senator DeCamp, since you said that this opposition comes from the county officials, I wonder if you have a list for us of the actions taken by specific counties? Sometimes I have misgivings when someone claims to represent my county officials, and I wonder if you have a list that they provided you of the county officials, by county, that have opposed this particular piece of legislation?

SENATOR DECAMP: I am not sure that I even understand the question. Would you please repeat it?

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Well John I will try to make it as simple as possible. The question is that you stood up and said that the county officials are opposed to this bill, and I have heard this until I am a little sick of it and I would like to know if you are going to bring that in, if they are representatives? How does the Sarpy County officials feel about this if you are bringing this to me as something that the county officials oppose?

SENATOR DECAMP: Senator Lewis, I know that this is going to shock you, but you see I don't represent Sarpy County, I represent counties up in northeast Nebraska and those are the counties that have contacted me. They have made it very strong that they feel that this will be an intrusion into their powers, and as I recall, Sarpy County probably doesn't have as many wooded areas and lakes and types of things that would be effected as for example Holt or Boyd or Anelope or Boone or Wheeler County and those are the counties that I am concerned about because they will probably be very seriously effected.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: First of all, I understand that you don't represent Sarpy County and probably never will, the second thing that I understand is the question I am raising to you is not what your county officials have said but you made a general statement that county officials have opposed this and this kind of thing on this floor has happened time and time and time again, trying to reflect general statewide concern and opposition and I don't think that it is there, and I haven't heard of it.

SENATOR DECAMP: O.K., I have just been handed a note that indicates that Platte, Madison and Pierce County officials are also opposed to it and I suppose that if we wait another hour, we can round up all but Sarpy County.

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: Good.

SENATOR DECAMP: The point that I am trying to make is I am saying that every county official in the state of Nebraska is opposed to it, what I am saying is that the counties that I represent and a lot of rural counties are very concerned about this. Number 1, number 2, you are putting into the Constitution, not law, but into the Constitution of the state of Nebraska a very significant amendment for special interest or what would be ultimately special interest and I don't think that it is a step that we want to be taking. Therefore, I would call

SENATOR FRANK LEWIS: I think that you made a very general statement about county officials that was not your main and was not true.

SENATOR DECAMP: Cheyenne, Kimball, Banner and Morrill Counties just joined the group. Crete hopped on.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Fred Carstens.

SENATOR FRED CARSTENS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I am going to oppose the killing of this bill. I have heard from some county officials, I have heard from no county officials in my district, but even from what I have heard was completely based on completely erroneous assumptions. First of all, the accessors claim that they have to go out and reassess everything. This is obviously not true. The law that if amongst this constitutional amendment, if adopted, has not been passed by this Legislature. Now we have examples of this when