

March 3, 1980

LB 613

CLERK: 12 ayes, 8 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: We are... Senator Kahle, do you wish to speak to the committee amendments?

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker and members, I want to support the Burrows-Hefner amendment. I come from a township or a county that has township form of government. We also have a good number of rural fire districts. Several years ago the word that we got at least, I don't know maybe some townships and fire districts did get away with it, that they no longer could levy for a sinking fund. They had to have a purpose in mind and have the equipment bought and they could borrow the money and pay it off but they could not accumulate funding for a fire truck for instance. As a result many did not levy anything the last year or two and they were able of course to consolidate the three levies of the last three years and take the average but that didn't help much either if you hadn't levied very much or anything. So, it has put them in a very, very bad situation. In fact, they are stymied. They can't do anything unless they go to the trouble of trying to have an election which isn't the easiest thing in the world in a small community either if you have to start from the County Clerk's office and work out. So if we are going to relieve the lid on anybody, I think it should be relieved on those people the closest to the problem and those are the ones that are in township and precinct government, whatever it might be, local fire districts, and I believe the limit is \$25,000. This certainly seems reasonable to me and I don't believe it was the intent of the lid bill to stop these communities completely from doing what their citizens want and need. So I do support the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Murphy and then Senator Koch. Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Well I would speak to each of the bills. First of all, on the MAT bill, I have trouble accepting the concept that they need to be exempt. I will take advantage of the occasion and mention that the article in the World Herald the other day commenting that they need \$80,000 to build a recreation room out at the transit barn but inasmuch as Mr. Simon is raising a point of order I won't do that. Instead I will revert to the substance of the amendment which is another exemption for someone else. Now let's either face up to this thing and repeal that 7% lid or let's avoid additional petition filings and live with that lid. We had a special session to create this monster. Now we have it. We have already shot it full of so many holes you can't find it but, I don't think we need to add any more exemptions unless we are going to exempt