

20,000 or less county boards to determine whether or not the county attorney will be a full time county attorney. One other thing that it does and it is not mentioned in the bill book is that it removes the equal share provision when two counties employ a joint county attorney. This was done just in passing because it seems that that language should not be in there. You may have a big and a small county that would like to employ the same county attorney. It does not make sense that they both pay 50 percent of that salary. One should pay more than the other. Those are the two things that this bill does. I move that it be advanced.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion on LB 21? Senator Lamb, oh, Senator Vickers. The Chair recognizes Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, I wonder if Senator Lamb would answer a question, please.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lamb, will you respond?

SENATOR VICKERS: Senator Lamb, as you just got through mentioning, this would allow counties of unequal size to share a county attorney, and what method would the pay be decided then?

SENATOR LAMB: That would be decided between the counties. Under present law it states, you will notice on the bottom of page 3 of the bill, it says when any two or more contiguous counties agree by resolution to have a full time attorney, each county shall pay an equal share of such attorney's annual salary. Well, just in passing it seemed that this would not cover every situation. It seemed that there may be situations where one county might want to pay more than the other if it is a bigger county, so we just in passing have stricken that language because it seems that the county should be able to decide on what the share should be rather than having it specified in the statute that each county will pay 50 percent.

SENATOR VICKERS: But it doesn't necessarily say in the statute that they will settle it by resolution, does it?

SENATOR LAMB: It does not say what the share will be. It does give the counties permission to have a joint county attorney but we are just taking out the language that says each one of them has to pay half. It may be more logical that one pays more than the other.

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay, thank you very much, Senator Lamb.