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LB 142, 1217

the case that transit systems have been treated differently than other subdivisions and, in fact, what evidence I have, which is somewhat meager I guess, is that the MAT now actually has a lower property tax levy than they did before all this came about. So they are allocated authority by both the city and the county. They have the opportunity, as do other subdivisions, to...to use property tax levies to get funds. This is somewhat of a floodgate type phenomena and it's not justified, I don't think, by the changes that were made via LB 142 and I would urge you not to support this override. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Raikes. There are no more...no further lights on. Senator Janssen, did you wish to close?

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Have had some good discussion and I'd like to say once more, you know, who uses the MTA? That brings me an old song--all night long "starly"...Charlie stood at the station saying, what will become of me, how can I afford to put my wife and family, I got to go to work on the MTA. So that's what...that's what we're talking about. We're talking about people who can't afford other types of transportation. They use the system to go to work, come home, go downtown, go out of town. We've made...we've restored funds for other subdivisions that have been cut by this. We restored funds to community colleges, NRDs, maybe not what they need but we've made some...we'd made some additions for those people. Why, you know, why can't we do this for the Metropolitan Transit Authority? I bring this to you for a...for a vote. I didn't want to stand up here and have people talk and then pull it, so I want you...want to tell you this is property tax relief. I don't care what Senator Wickersham said, it's still...it's still going to be funded by property taxes. They've run this...this department so efficiently that it's almost scary. Sometime maybe I think we should take some lessons from them on our...on the way we run things. With that, I'd just ask for your green vote. Not a lot of money. Sure, it's an increase, but the effects could be more overwhelming than the amount of money that we're asking for here. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Janssen. The question before the body is the line-item override. Shall this portion