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is what we've found in cities is that we do have...it seems like the budget lid is more...is much more of the problem than the...maybe the levy limit. And so I think what the amendment that Senator Mines has brought to us, it provides a city with a three-fourths vote. And I got thinking of my own city, which has ten council members. (Laugh) For them to get three-fourths vote probably will never...maybe never...I shouldn't say "never." You should never say never, but it'd be unlikely to happen. But it...but I think for some of the cities, like Kearney, some of the other cities, first-class cities, that...and many of the cities don't have the sales tax. But it would simply allow them some more...some flexibilities, if three-fourths of the city council vote. And they have to face the elector. They're not under the term limits as we are in this body. So I rise to support the amendment of Senator Mines. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. If Senator Mines would yield to some questions, I would appreciate it.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Mines, would you yield, please?

SENATOR MINES: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you. Senator Mines, I'm struggling with the issue here. And I guess my first question is this seems to be a budget...you know, a spending issue in an environment of concerns of less state aid, when really it's a separate issue, really. I mean, this amendment is entirely about spending, and not necessarily revenue.

SENATOR MINES: Yes, that's correct. It doesn't deal with property tax or sales tax limits. It deals with spending limits, on a separate level.

SENATOR SMITH: And I'm not officially raising a germaneness question, but I'm struggling with the rationale for the need to increase spending in, it's my understanding, a few cities, and...when virtually, you know, others are having to cut back