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LB 352

get fifteen percent, some get forty-five percent increases, some get three, some get less but that is our decision. I am saying let the local subdivisions, if you trust them, if you like local control, put it back where it really counts, that is to make your budgets. Let them make the budgets and make them according to their needs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Clerk, do you have something on the desk?

CLERK: Mr. President, the first amendment I have is from Senators DeCamp and Beutler.

SENATOR NICHOL: Are you going to read it to us, Mr. Clerk? Oh, Senator DeCamp, it is ten pages long so would you tell us about it in less than that?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Yes. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, indeed the amendment is ten pages long. Senator Beutler has done a tremendous amount of work on it. What we would propose is as follows, and I wish you would kind of pay attention because I think it is a reasonable proposal and maybe one that is workable, and quite frankly, politically palatable ultimately. It is a new formula for a new lid. It maintains the lid because politically we don't think it can be repealed. Even though I might have some sentiments for its total repeal, we don't think it can. What we would suggest is this other formula which is tied more closely to real life, in other words, we use an average of about three years past income as income increase in the state. That deals with what is really happening. That becomes the lid. What would be the practical effect? I am guessing, what, nine and a half, maybe ten percent is what it would end up being. If inflation is brought under control and things go down, the lid amount goes down. As a practical matter, if things blow apart, this would slowly go up, too, but it would be dealing with reality rather than the seven percent. What we are suggesting then, give you the general idea of this lid so you understand what it is. On Select File we will offer it, assuming the bill goes that far, and we are suggesting that you go ahead and advance it with the understanding that we are dead serious about this. We have talked to people on both sides, have brought it up to some of the administration officials, brought it up to county officials, school officials, school boards, all the various entities that really have a deep and abiding interest in the lid issue, and without saying absolutely that it will or won't go or that they all accept it, I can say the response from every quarter was quite receptive, and I would hope that on Select File maybe we would take this up and I would let Senator Beutler say something on it, sure, but