

at that point forward and see if the Governor would sign such a measure. I think it is reasonable and prudent to allow them to go to nine percent with a three-fourths majority of that elective board. It still leaves a strong ability for the public to get at least part of that board in opposition if they want to keep that seven percent lid on there. They can do it with a minority of the elected people at the local level and it keeps the lid concept intact. Thank you.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President and members, I strongly object to this sort of an amendment and I will try to explain why. Any time you perforate the lid of seven percent you put a heavier burden on the local tax, people that pay the local tax, usually property tax, than you do with the seven percent. If we allow holes to be blown in the lid, and this is one, it allows the local people or demands almost that they provide the funding for certain subdivisions of government at a higher level than the seven percent. Those parts of local government that are funded partially by state funding and partially by local funding are the ones that are going to get hurt. I like to use the technical community colleges for an example. About half of the money for the technical community colleges comes from the state and about half of it comes from the local subdivisions of government. If you allow the lid to be raised to let's say nine percent or ten percent or whatever it is, it allows those subdivisions or those units, those technical schools, to raise their budget by that amount. The State of Nebraska is not going to fund that at that level. They are not going to put that funding in at ten percent or whatever it may be. So what you are doing, you are allowing those subdivisions to come into the county government and ask for ten percent or whatever you decide it might be. So what you are doing is that at the local level you are not raising it just a couple of percentage points, you are raising it just twice that much because of the fact that the subdivision can raise their budget that much. I am against the lid. I will vote for taking the lid off. I resist any attempt to raise the percentage points in the lid because I think that hurts a local government much more than it is hurting it now and it also, as Senator Koch said earlier, provides a floor for those subdivisions of government. You would be foolish not to go the limit on whatever you can get away with because the governments that were frugal in the beginning are the ones that got hurt with the lid. Now I think that we are absolutely wrong if we try to spring holes in that lid. Either leave it where it is or take it off completely so