

going to get but you're get back considerably below the 85 million that we're talking about now that would be this so-called excess money. The bill as it stands, LB 84 as it stands now, would cost more than that, \$98 million and we have made an effort to keep it close to that \$85 million figure. There was one proposal that would go as high as \$117 million. Some of us got in trouble with the executive branch when we rejected that proposal thinking that was too high and also there were some other problems with it, but that was too high we thought. And so now we have come back and have a so-called agreement between some members of the Legislature and the executive branch on the present funding level of 98 million. So that's where I would like to see it stay. I would like to see it stay. Certainly not less than 85 million, but I think we're close enough there that we should leave it because if we're going to have significant property tax relief, you know, it's going to have to be two or \$300 million. So in order to do something that is at least halfway significant for property tax relief, it has to be close to the \$100 million level and I would resist Senator Warner's proposed amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, and thank you, Senator Warner, for bringing up the Commonwealth depositors in connection with this discussion today about LB 84 and property tax relief. Definitely, I'm for property tax relief. In my campaign last year in our surveys, every time there were three issues that surfaced very quickly in anything that we asked of voters to tell us what their priorities were. Property tax relief, water conservation and the University of Nebraska were the three that always were the top three and education in general was next. So I have had mixed emotions all afternoon listening to the debate about property tax relief because it's an American dream from way back to own your own home and there are a lot of small property owners, people who just simply own their homes, who don't use them for profit but to live in. My son owns his own home and if he would get back even \$25 on his property taxes in cash, he'd probably think that was great. He'd go out to dinner or something. A lot of it is psychology, psychological to feel that government does care and tries to do something for the people that support government, the taxpayers. So I listened very carefully to Senator Warner's proposal. I'm not quite sure how I will vote. I would hope some way or another before the end of this session we can help the