

cover the loss that has been thrown in the face of this Legislature, really, because even though the loss goes to local subdivisions, we're making it up. We are going to make it up. We've made it up in the past and we'll be expected to make it up in the future and we've made it up last year in terms of the form of LB 84 because we basically, through the passage of that bill, said we haven't done a good job in trying to reduce property tax, the overreliance on property taxes so we're going to send you a hundred million dollars and I supported that. I think that we need to do it again in 1990, but if we're going to, in essence, protect the base, what's left of it, through the passage of LB 7, I think it's also important for us to raise the revenue that allows us to send that money back to the locals again which we're going to be expected to do in 1990 and '91 and '92 and '93 until we do change our system, till we do change our system. And that's the reason for my argument on the sunset on LB 7 so I'll bring it up on Select File, is because that is the crux of the argument on whether or not you really do want a long-term solution. That's what that vote is all about when we take it. It's not on whether or not you want this to go out of existence in two years, this specific exemption, it's on whether or not do you ever plan on really correcting the problem once and for all. All Senator Dierks and Senator Landis do is allow for us to pay our way as we go with regards to the exemption that we provide in LB 7. I think it's very prudent for the body to address this issue, very up front. The arguments that Senator Warner raises with regard to the integrity of the bill and whether or not it might be subject, I don't know, I don't know. We have things called severability clauses that we attach to these bills for that specific purpose. Whether or not that would apply in this case, I don't know. I would argue that it would, but I think that at this point in time the Dierks amendment is a very good amendment to compliment the one that Senator Landis brought to the committee. I would urge your support of Senator Dierks' amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Wesely, followed by Senator Schmit.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President, members, I would rise in support of the Dierks amendment as well as the Landis amendment which the committee adopted. I think it very clearly points out the very heart of the issue that we're discussing today. As we deal with any exemption, and particularly these exemptions, we must understand the simple truth of the fact that