

Kristensen can have the rest of my time.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Senator Withem. Members of the body, I made a mistake. I misspoke and I want to make sure...I am totally wrong. Senator Will and Senator Haberman did vote no on this amendment. I don't want the body to be misled. I was looking at the wrong committee statement. When I said that, I had turned the page to LB 66 instead of 65. I am wrong. Senator Will did vote against this. I would assume that he would stand up and give us his views on this. Senator Haberman did so as well. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Lamb, followed by Senator Kristensen, Will, and Cudaback. Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Madam Chair, and members, I have a question for Senator Kristensen, please. First of all, I'd like to say that I think this needs to be done. My question is, is there any thinking toward taking some of the other entities that you mentioned out from under the levy limit also?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes, Senator Lamb, two years ago I introduced a bill in front of the Revenue Committee that listed the specific entities that we could take out, and not have. These would be like the ag societies, the airports, the county museums, and so on. The committee was hesitant to do that by name, and so we went back and put in things that were ministerial. In other words, they just carry out functions and then put their levy back on. The committee saw fit not to pass all of that out of their committee, and only did the county medical facilities, and that is the reason I am doing this in a limited manner today, seeing as how I am attaching it to someone else's bill.

SENATOR LAMB: But then you are saying there is no concerted effort to do that with these other entities this year, as far as you know?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Not that I am aware of, and I toiled with that a little bit as to whether I would put everything back in. It seemed to me a less intrusive and a less controversial way to at least do the things with the medical facilities, because at least in a couple of the areas, that was the most pressing levy that was causing the problem.