

decreasing our reimbursement of Medicaid and that's a federal mandate and it's going to cost us 'x' amount of dollars. And that's very true. The federal government is doing that in all sorts of areas and categories. I think President Reagan called it trickle down. Feds trickle down on us and we trickle down on the localities. There are some mandates coming up because of the Safe Drinking Water Act that Senator Wehrbein was talking about that are going to cost your constituents a lot of money. Now it's not specifically mentioned in this bill as we're looking at it now, but it is a potential in the future. In the future, this Safe Drinking Water Act would call for a village of between 25 and 100 people, or water system, which there are 403 of those in the state, to increase their rates. Their testing charges would be \$3,760. Now that's anywhere from \$37 per head to \$150 per head. So if you have a small village in your district or a small drinking water system of 25 to 100 people, and you have a family of 4 living in that district, their increase for water testing per federal mandate could be \$600 for that family, if it's a very small water system, \$600 for that one family. It could be as...as low as \$160, if you can consider that low for water testing. Now, you'll notice the Sierra Club, and I believe Senator Beutler, have also come up with water quality legislation that would add deposit fees to pesticide containers and other methods of raising money for water quality. I think this bill...Senator Schmit always...has always been pushing for something tha...this effect in his...has traditionally asked for an appropriation and I think he just got tired of getting beaten down with it and we finally just decided, well let's at least try and get the...as Senator Johnson said, get the account started...get it open. Because we have many things coming in the future, mandated by the federal government. In other words, they...I don't think they're going to come in and tell us, we think you can pass on this one, because we know you got a tax problem, folks. Same as solid waste, they're not going to say that to us. They made the...made the decision. It will happen. Now the villages and your constituents, your taxpayers are considering...scrambling trying to figure out how they're going to pay for it. Now we might not want to raise taxes on the state level, or raise money because it's a perception that we did it up here, but if we don't do it, then the folks on the local political subs are going to have to do it and that might be politically expedient to say they did it, we didn't do it. But that's not how we should address this situation. There are a lot of costs coming in the future, and I think...