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this point I would stand in support of the Schellpeper amendment and think we ought to look for some solution to the problem that's been created. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Horgan. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I rise to support Senator Schellpeper's amendment. I think this is a fair amendment. I felt that 33 1/3 percent reduction was too great, and I voted against that. But here again we want to balance the state budget on the backs of local government, and I don't think that's fair, folks. A few years back we had a Governor that said, well, I held the state budgets at such and such percent increase. Well, really, really he didn't because he had a greater reduction in the state aid to local government than he did to the state's expenditures. And I think this is wrong, because the only way that local government can raise the money is through property taxes. And time and time again we keep saying we don't want property taxes increased. And so I would say, let's go with the Schellpeper amendment because it's a less reduction. Why should we just pick on the cities and villages, and I want to talk just a little bit about, or more about the budgets of the small towns. True, the larger towns can implement a city sales tax, but it's pretty hard for these small towns to implement a sales tax because they feel they'll lose sales and I agree with that. Whereas, the larger towns have a drawing capacity and a variety of goods to go ahead with that. If we want a city sales tax, really it should be countywide so that all municipalities can participate in that. Like I said the other day, this is like taking candy away from kids. We gave it to them. Why did we give it to them in the first place if two years down the road we're going to take it away from them? I just don't think it's fair. I think the Schellpeper amendment is more fair than the original proposal. Mr. Speaker, if I have any time left I'd like to give it to Senator Cudaback.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Speaker and members, I'd like to ask Senator Moore a question please.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Moore, would you respond please?

SENATOR MOORE: Yes.