

hearing called pursuant to this subsection (1) of this section at which there is an opportunity for testimony on the increase proposed under this subsection or (b) at a special public hearing called for purposes of receiving testimony on the increase proposed under this subsection." What it is is the provision that says in relation to a ruling that comes down from the CIR that the local governing body in a public meeting or at a special meeting would have the ability to increase the receipts from property taxes for purposes of paying for that CIR ruling. In effect, it's probably for the most part going to deal with police and fire unions and I believe to the extent that the City of Omaha's interest lays with this issue as that's where it directly will fall. It is a provision that merely says that the CIR rules, we have to pay. They want to have the ability to increase the receipts from property taxes for purposes of covering that ruling. With that, I would respond to any questions that members might have and, again, I apologize for the fact that I forgot to initial the handout.

SENATOR CROSBY PRESIDING

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Hall. Discussion on the Hall amendment, Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, Madam Chair, members of the body, I have not visited with Senator Hall about this at all. I just saw that the amendment filed and I was going to pass off the baton of chairing the session to Senator Crosby anyway and I thought I'd make a comment or two about this. I would be supportive of the amendment and draw the analogy to the lid that exists on local school districts. Back when we passed LB 1059, one of the important parts of passage of 1059 was the fashioning of the, in that case it's a budget limitation lid. And we did consider what should be under and what should not be under and, Senator Hall, I believe it's accurate that school districts, I don't believe you mentioned this, that school districts do, in fact, have this exception. I don't think it has an abuse by any school district. We've had about five years of experience with it. The rationale being that we want...by imposing lids we want local subdivisions, cities, counties, school districts, all of those to exercise good sound judgment and keep their expenses down. When there is an item that is physically outside of the control of those local officials, we have given exceptions. We've done a number of those within the area of schools. Some of them may be too great an extent but this is one that I think