

SENATOR BROMM: Okay.

SENATOR LANDIS: It's not the worse thing in the world. Other things could happen. Nothing comes to mind right now, but that's not the worse, yeah.

SENATOR BROMM: Well, I appreciate that. Thank...

SENATOR LANDIS: But I would like to know where in the heck is my chair? I mean you couldn't talk me out of my pants, Curt. I just want to know where my chair is now.

SENATOR BROMM: I am not even sure who you are. I don't even...I don't recognize your name.

SENATOR LANDIS: You don't recognize your victims, is that it?

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Senator Will.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Landis, feel free to use my chair while I'm up here. Senator Warner, you're next.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I, too, would rise to oppose the amendment for a variety of reasons. What we are talking about on a statewide basis in terms of property tax at 45 cents. Remember, there is 50 cents allowed, but 45 cents would be approximately six...a little over \$16 million, \$16.5 million, and then the 5 cents that is authorized, and the key to this whole thing, the key to the whole thing that we keep talking about from day one is how can we get government more cost-effective? How can we reduce the cost of operation for local governments and state government and still preserve the services? And the key has always been to encourage cooperative efforts or through some form of merger and consolidation locally approved by the voters. What's envisioned as a practical matter, the question is asked, how do we provide the incentive? It's going to be numerous ways, but one of the easy ways, one of the very key ways is the fact that the provision of a levy limit can be exceeded by a vote. The option is going to be that in one vote you are going to authorize a higher levy. The other option will be a vote to approve cooperative efforts, mergers, cooperations, which also require a vote but maybe not a levy increase. That's the incentive, and