

already taken the hint, I don't know.

(LAUGHTER)

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Senator Klein.

SENATOR KLEIN: Pretty hard to top that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and fellow members. I have a couple of concerns, too, with the thing that is going and that's municipalities facing financing and refinancing indebtedness, and I think we're going to look at some severely higher interest rates. I have small towns in my district and not all of them are shrinking like Mr. Cudaback says. Some of them are growing, but we're looking at just basically anywhere from 12 to 42 percent reduction in available taxes to support these communities. And that's just too much of a cut. I don't think we're going to sit there and be able to say that we can share services when fire trucks would have to be 30 miles away. I don't believe that's going to work, Senator Warner. It certainly won't work at my house. I don't want that. I don't want to have fire protection on Monday, Wednesdays, and Fridays. I think I want it seven days a week. We're willing to pay for it. I, for that reason, will support Senator Maurstad's amendment. I do support the concept of 1114 but I just think we're awfully severe on these small towns, and they do not have the opportunity. If we're going to do something like that, then maybe we can go back to where Senator Cudaback said that everybody goes to the big cities to shop. I've got one here that's got a .0915 for a levy because of the sales tax. Maybe we should redo the sales tax quota for the state and redisburse that money instead of letting the cities use it. But that's not what I'm asking for. I'm asking to support this amendment and with that I'm going to give the rest of my time to Senator Maurstad. Thank you.

SENATOR WILL: Senator Maurstad, you have about three and a half minutes.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Klein. I just want to comment on some of the points that have been raised. There certainly have been a number of very valid observations brought during the discussion so far and I certainly appreciate that. Senator Kristensen indicated that everyone indicates that their property taxes are too high, and I agree with them. I think that certainly it would be a universal