

that we take it and make a rational decision so that we can say and feel comfortable when we go back to our constituents that we tried hard, we worked, we did this for you. If we do it, job well done. If I have any time left, I'll turn it over to my padre here, Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR WILL: Senator Bernard-Stevens, you have about two and a half minutes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Fisher, members of the body. I want to kind of expand the topic a little bit. As long as we're going to consider talking about the villages and towns that are going to be hurt severely compared to others who will not, I don't mind that discussion. But if you're going to do the Maurstad amendment, you might as well go the whole way because I certainly am going to have some strong objections if we treat cities that way but when we get to school districts we say, yeah, there's some school districts like North Platte that will drop clear down to \$1.10 and have to cut back severely or you have a school district line Inland who is at 89 cents that won't have to do a dang thing. We're going to have some real serious discussions on that level. So what I'm saying to people is I understand people may support the amendment. In fact, maybe the amendment will pass, but don't stop on this amendment. Don't tell me you're going to support just towns and cities but when we get to schools, well, we'll draw the line and we're not going to do that because they're the biggest part of the property tax burden. If you're going to bail out smaller areas that are going to get hurt badly by this and give them some room to grow, then that same concept has to go over to public schools. If not, this discussion is a farce. And I want just the body to understand that this is just more than cities. This will have a big ramification of where we go from here on some of the other sections. And if the body is willing to do that for public schools, that would be great. I don't have a feel of that right now, but don't think that...

SENATOR WILL: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...once you do this that we're done because it does set up the debate for the others. And I probably won't vote on the amendment so if it passes and the other is not done, this will be a reconsidered process real quick. So I just want to expand that debate just a little