

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Avery. Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman and members. Senator Warner said that this amendment would reduce about 16 or raise it about \$16 million. But you have to keep in mind that entire \$16 million is going to be from small towns. None of the largest 20 towns in the state are really going to be affected. If you look, it's going to affect LaVista, they're at 47 cents, 45 cents so they have to cut 2 cents, very little. South Sioux City at 57 cents, they have to cut 12 cents. McCook is at 45.9, nine-tenths of a cent; York is 83. They have to cut. Omaha and Lincoln, it doesn't affect them, doesn't affect them at all. Lincoln is at 26.5, Omaha is at 41 cents. Now you take Eddyville, in Senator Jim Jones' district, they're at 2.04. Well, that will be a reduction. Oh, that's in your district, Cudaback, okay. We got the wrong senator here but you can take credit for that, Senator Cudaback. Wahoo is at about 95 cents. But this amendment or this part of the bill that we're talking about for cities is really going to help small towns because none of the larger ones are going to be affected. They have their city sales tax. They got their wheel tax. They can do all those other things. I told the people before, you can't collect a sales tax in Stanton, we have nothing...we have no services. We're a bedroom community with Norfolk. They're very low. Stanton is at 78 cents. The bonds are not in this limit so it really doesn't affect that. I really think that if this amendment, the Maurstad amendment, does not pass this is going to fuel the Farm Bureau amendment. People are going to say, well, gee-whiz, that's a lot better than what this is for these small towns, a lot better because at least then they're going to be cut a little bit with the state to pick up the difference. With this, there's nothing to say that the state will pick up any of this cost. We're saying put her to a vote. Let the people decide. They can raise it any way they want to. Senator Hartrett said let them raise it. They can do whatever they want to. There's no way to raise it unless you put it on every bushel of corn that goes through your streets, charge the farmer so much per bushel to haul corn across your streets, we could do that maybe in town. We don't have any police force in Stanton right now. The county sheriff takes care of it. I think a lot of towns are being run very frugal and if they have a big mill levy they raise very little dollars. Maybe they raise 15-25 thousand dollars. They're not...the people out there are not complaining about the city sale...or the city tax. Once again,