

a great step. Whether the figure is quite right or not I don't know, but we do have an opportunity to adjust that in the next couple years, and so I would urge the body to support the bill as presented. Thank you.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. President. I want to make it clear, as I have before, that I'm not resisting change here. I'm trying to assist in this whole process of making sure that we come up with, ultimately, with good public policy. I don't think that this amendment would guarantee that everyone would have 75 cent levy anymore than at current statute indicate and guarantees that they'll all have \$1.15 or 85 cent levy. I still believe that, you know, our communities and towns are going to respond to their constituencies. The tiers exist now. The committee amendment would take away those tiers in the place of a...relative to the municipalities. All my amendment would do is continue those tiers and allow them to continue to exist and recognize some of the disparity that exists among our communities. I'd like to ask everybody, you know, are we ready to cut our state budget 30 percent or whatever percent it is and then take that to the vote of the people and then let them increase whatever revenues we need for five years and then take it from there? You know, I think that we need to look at this in a lo. broader context in that, you know, we don't necessarily have all the answers relative to the problems of the state within the walls of the Capitol and I just have to think that we're not going to be in a position to make that kind of a cut in our state budget and then take it to a vote of the people to do what we need to do. It gets back to whether or not there's going to be this groundswell that maybe we're relying on. The other thing, what are we going to do when the feds, if they balance their budget and we have to respond to that pressure from that way? Are we going to be able to also address the pressure coming from the local government at the same time we're getting squeezed from the federal government? My point is, I don't think that replacement revenue's going to be there, so if you are counting on replacement revenue to provide the relief valve for this in a couple years, I think you better consider that that replacement revenue might not be there. Then a comment relative to misinformation about LB 1114, and that certainly occurs on a lot of bills we have, but I don't think there's been any misinformation relative to this particular