

amendment, but it does three things. First, the question was raised, the amendment as...the committee amendment, as drafted, indicated the levy limits took place, commencing January 1 of 1999, and there was concern whether or not that meant that it...that they did not take effect until after the calendar or after the fiscal year had started. Obviously, at least drafting thought this was...was proper, but in order to make no question about it at all, this clarifies that the levy limits would commence with the fiscal year beginning July 1 of 1998. It makes no change other than the original (inaudible) was January 1, '99. It's the same fiscal year, but it makes it clear. Secondly, the next amendment harmonizes some provisions where there is a voter or town hall...town meeting type override provisions. This applies to those entities that are within the 15 cents that has...that goes to the county board to have their budget approved and the levy set. The alternative for these small entities, and they range fairly wide in their levy that they currently have, but it makes it clear that any of these small entities who would go to the county board to have their budget approved, if they chose to have a town meeting which the...the residents of that district met and set their levy, this would be an annual event, set their levy by a vote like the old Class I schools did, it would make it clear that that vote that they would...would cast would...would not...that any money that the county included would be...would be apart from what they voted to go above or if the county provided them nothing then it would totally be from that source. They would be limited by whatever statutory authority that they have currently. They couldn't go above that, but it's the...again, the opportunity for these small entities. And then, finally, there was a section in that same area in which we had limited townships to 7 cents maximum levy. Their current authorization is 28. This would permit them still to go to 28, but they still have to go through the town...what we call the town or voter meeting to establish whatever levy they may want. May range from very small levies to a higher, but in any event it would be done locally and they would vote to do...do it. In fact, I think probably some of them already are required to do that to some extent. But this is a clarifying amendment and I would move its adoption.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** Thank you, Senator Warner. On the Warner amendment, Senator Maurstad, followed by Senator Robinson.