

collecting the city sales tax, and that's in the vicinity of 4-4.5 million dollars for that purpose. The bill does not take effect in this area until July of 1978 (sic), again, consistent with the other legislation. There are two other provisions in the bill. The additional 5 cents per...for counties and cities to levy up to their maximum of 50 cents is contained in this bill, but that 5 cents is limited to cooperative efforts that the...or joint programs that they might deliver under Interlocal Cooperation Act. Again, this is an incentive to the extent that we can provide incentives to ensure efforts to become more cost effective in these areas. The third provision, it would extend the current local options up to one-and-a-half-cent sales tax to be countywide, although those funds are restricted to providing public services cooperative within the county which would be with municipalities and the counties primarily, although it could also extend to fire districts. The bill, as drafted, does not remove any of the authority from...of municipalities to have up to one-and-a-half percent sales tax. If the bill is enacted and a county would extend, by a vote of the people, this one-and-a-half cent to the balance of the county, those municipalities that did not have a sales tax but chose sometime later to do so, would still be able to do so. It would not be prohibited but, obviously, if that would happen, it would lessen the revenue for those cooperative programs to be implemented, all of which should be more cost effective. It does...it would be accurate to say that every county would not generate sufficient funds from this revenue source to perhaps, say, pay for both their sheriff and local law enforcement in communities. Some it would. In any event, it would go a long ways toward providing that funding without dipping into property tax as a source of revenue to do it. With those explanations, Mr. President, I'd ask that the committee amendments be adopted or we take up other pending amendments.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Kristensen, on the committee amendments to LB 1177.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to support the committee amendments and this is the final...not the final piece, but I guess it's the last piece that we're going to deal with in the package that the Revenue Committee put out. There's obviously another part, '176, that we've talked about when we were doing the other portion, particularly the constitutional amendment and how we're