

because of a longer term, but notwithstanding that, I guess one can vote as they please. I'll probably vote for five, but I don't know that ten makes any difference, but I...it seems to me that the five-year intervals certainly are significantly better than the annual requirements that some of the petitions have. But, you know, whatever the majority of the body felt would be...would be fine. I think the only issue is, is a five-year interval be more likely to be approved than a ten year? Ten year would seem very permanent.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank, Madam President, members of the Legislature. I want to explain to Senator Beutler and members who were interested in this, at least my thoughts on how we did this. There were certainly a group in committee that said, well, we ought to do this for, like, 20 years, or those that said, let's just do it open-ended. Okay? I think the other group that said, well, maybe we can do this for a year or two, because what you're really doing is taking it out of the hands, once the voters are doing this, to up the levy limit, they lose control of that to a certain degree. So if the money that they voted to increase isn't going for the causes and the purposes they thought, there was an escape hatch. And so it kind of came down to, well, if you're going to do bonded indebtedness, sorts of things, long-term sorts of things, those are your 20 to 30-year types of projects. But the safeguard there is we know the exact amount that's going to be financed. We know the specific cause, and this is just a general ability to go over the levy. The other part was once we go over, is there a mechanism to get back out of it? This is similar to what I talked to Senator Hillman this morning about. If you didn't like the limit, could you get back out? And the five came as sort of in between a real short period of time, which wasn't worth the effort for the special election, and ten years which appeared to be a long-time to bind the taxpayers on going over the levy limit. And I don't know if there is any magic to five, but that's the reason we're at five, and for those that care about that, I guess I'm probably going to stick on five, but that's the policy choice of how we got where we were.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Bernard-Stevens.