

if we're asking school districts in our equalization formula, if we're not...if we're penalizing those that are...that have high levies, if we're using average levies to try to figure out what's fair, I don't know why that same sort of system is not at least equally applicable to villages and cities of the second class. But I would admit to having a lot to learn in this particular area and I would certainly be willing to listen some more. But I hope somebody can answer those particular questions. Thank you.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. President, I'd like to yield my time to Senator Kristensen, please.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, and thank you, Senator Schimek, for the opportunity to get in line here and put a few more pieces to this puzzle. Please keep in mind that there are the following things to protect these small communities or the ones that, where they're even a little larger communities, because there are certainly some of those affected as well. But primarily with the villages that we were concerned about, that's the reason we allowed for the town hall meeting where they could vote to increase their levy at that time for this five-year period of time and that that could be done with having a minimum amount of people there, I think it's a 10 percent quorum, and then having a majority of those people vote to do that, and that's real practical because those small communities, everybody knows everybody. Everybody knows if money's being wasted or not and that's where this small town hall meeting and the vote, I think, will come in to be very practical. For the little larger communities the opportunity to increase that for at least the first five years, till they get the chance to go out and find ways to live within this, is a good relief valve. But what happens if they don't approve that vote? What's that tell you? That tells you that people didn't want the property tax, and therein lies the whole point of this debate. If we don't put those levy limits in, and I don't know of anybody on the floor that enjoys putting those levy limits on, I don't know of anybody that enjoys going out and talking to their mayor and saying, I'm sorry, we're going to put some levy limits in, or their superintendent, or their county board chair