

April 3, 1996

LB 1114  
LR 206

looking and that they would have an opportunity to come in and express themselves as to what they think might be a possible way in certain instances to alleviate some of their problems. So I guess I'll leave the discussion, turn the suggestion back to you and if you have a strong opposition and feel there's something you can do that's as well or better than I will withdraw my amendment and I'll leave that discussion, that decision up to you. Senator Warner.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, thank you, Senator Vrtiska. I would oppose putting the amendment in, but it's a much broader issue than just that. As you know, there is a number of things that are going on. I've indicated a continuation of the old LR 206 Committee in which at least the eight committees, if not more, would have a direct jurisdictional responsibility, are going to be involved. There is another process that is also going to be involved which is looking at all the various mandates of local government. That, I believe, is a special committee, as it is proposed under the direction of the Executive Board, as I recall. And it isn't...my point being is that the issue is not only one of additional revenue. Of equal importance is the other things that can be done that can relieve some of the costs to local government, and I would be concerned if the only thing that we're going to emphasize in the legislation is alternative revenue when the other aspects, which are also included in the study resolutions, are much broader, recognizing that it is a combination of things. Some of those...I don't think that one...one mandate has been adopted yet, but it's pending and I don't know of any objection to it and that could have been done by a resolution too, except that the time period is past for that. But I...you know, it's one of these amendments doesn't hurt anything, but I think it may, in some respects, give an emphasis to one portion of the issue rather than the whole issue, which is not just revenue, it's things that we need to do to reduce their cost, things that we need to do to make it more cost efficient, things that we can do to reduce some obligated expenses because of statutes or rules and regs. I would anticipate in case of schools that the Department of Education, excuse me, the State Board of Education has offered to make efforts and I think we need to under...for subdivisions need to realize this is a multiple approach of areas that might reduce