

or changed down the road when circumstances require it. So I would urge the body to support the passage of LB 1114. Thank you.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Senator Abboud. Chair would like to take this opportunity to introduce two guests of mine from my district: Joe and Margaret Denning who are here under the south balcony. Will the Legislature please recognize our guests. Before we go to the next speaker, the speaking order will be as follows: Senator Fisher, followed by Senator Witek, Chambers, Robinson, Schimek, Bernard-Stevens, Beutler, Preister, and Stuhr. Senator Fisher.

SENATOR FISHER: Mr. President, presiding officer and members, I think a lot has been said about this bill and I think it's important that we do address it. I think it's important that we put it in statute, but I think the thing that you've missed a little bit is we have to look at these expenses. When you tell those people at home it's what's necessary that we need to spend money for, what we...it's necessary we need to spend tax dollars for, not what's not necessary. There's many things out there and I think we're going to find out that we're going to be able to operate. Being a businessman myself, I remember going through the eighties. I know how tough it was and other members in my district tell me that they've had to do it, we have to do it. I think it's going to start in...even at that state level. I think we've got to begin looking at expenses and cutting those expenses. Un...fortunately or unfortunately, I do not think my district will receive any tax relief because they're below the limits...levy set, but I think they're going to be very much aware of it. They're going to work hard and consolidating city and county services. I think that's important that we be aware of it. And when you talk to those constituents in your counties tell them that. Tell them they have to look for different ways as we do. The key again is what's necessary and what's secondary to expenditures of federal and state and county dollars. I'm going to support this. I think it's going to be a drastic change. I think we'll reap benefits. Short term, we're going to probably get some...there are going to be some counties hurt and I heard Senator Warner say that this state has never turned their backs on any counties or schools that can't be...can't afford the proper education or the dollars for it, so we'll probably come back and make some appropriations and do some reevaluating of our formula for distributing funds to needy