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certainly open to discussion.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yeah. I mean, one of the things...

SENATOR BROMM: When we get...

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...that concerns me is that when we start doing all these backbone things for all these different entities, including education being a huge one,...

SENATOR BROMM: Um-hum.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...that the costs are being shift...being shifted to state financing. And as the costs are shifted to state financing, that puts more pressure on various types of state operations because there's only a limited amount of funds there, and that maybe what we ought to be doing is creating equal pressure on everybody. I mean if, after all, firefighting and police are a local function, then if these enhanced...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...communications...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...if these enhanced communications are important to them, important enough to contribute their fair share to the overall cost, it seems to me there ought to be that kind of commitment on the part of the local political subdivisions too. Otherwise, whether it's education or whatever function it is, as we go to these statewide communication systems in one area after another, the costs of what used to be a more purely local-borne function becomes, in part, a state function and a state finance function. And...and I'm wondering whether the state should and can bear that enhanced burden, and I invite you to respond to that.

SENATOR BROMM: I think that's a extremely legitimate question. Part of the philosophy and what we're told is a reality here is that the state is going to have to do something about this problem for the state's sake. Our State Patrol, our other state