

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 149

SENATOR BROWN: And so is there anything about the formula that is going to reward?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: No, the state aid formula does not make up for that "underassessment" at the local level and, in fact, that's the reason for the calculation of the local effort yield rate. That's calculated at the full values and that's done by the Department of Revenue separately. It's not dependent on local practices. The incentive is to have your local assessment practices come up to the state's objective of 72...or 74 and 92 percent. If you don't come up at least to that objective, you're not accessing the revenues that the formula would call for.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time. Senator Wickersham, you're recognized.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Well, Senator Brown, I don't know if I answered your questions, and maybe in a moment I'll give you the opportunity to ask a follow-up question if you wish. If you...do you wish to ask an additional question or...? No. Okay. I think that it is important to, as Senator Brown I think suggested, to talk about the policy choices that are being made in 149, and I agree with her that that's what we should do. I don't agree with her when she asserts that you're going to have the information that Senator Bohlke passed out and then...and somehow in the next few minutes be required to vote. Well, first, there are a couple of things wrong with that statement. One, you can't be required to vote. If you don't want to vote, you'll put up amendments; you'll do as Senator Quandahl did, you'll put up another bracket motion. Anybody that knows how to use the rules and doesn't want to vote doesn't have to. And Senator Bohlke has said you're not going to have to anyway; that she doesn't want to take a vote until Wednesday or even a later date, I'm not sure what date she said, but you're clearly not going to be asked to vote today. I don't think that would be fair to you either. Wouldn't even be fair to me because I haven't had a chance to digest all of this. You're not going to be asked to vote today. I don't know where Senator Brown got that idea. And if you don't...and, again, I would say that if you don't want to vote today, start filing amendments. Do as