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technical, one of them is substantive. It is in part a result of the discussion that I had on General File with Senator Raikes about that particular point. I think that, although he can certainly speak for himself, I think that Senator Raikes agrees that the two-cent margin for the minimum levy penalty is appropriate. With that, I'd ask for your support of the amendment.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. You've heard the opening. Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I do want to comment on this amendment by Senator Wickersham. I do support it. He, I think, explained it very well. The minimum levy penalty provision I think is a very important one. Without the amendment, the minimum levy penalty would be five cents below the local effort rate, which, as he explained, would mean that schools basically would have...or school systems would basically have a lot more allowance than they currently do to financially support their systems on their own before the impact was felt at state aid...or through reduced state aid. Currently, I would just point out that the minimum levy penalty currently is one cent below the minimum or the local effort rate. This would expand it to two. The way the minimum...or, excuse me, the minimum levy penalty is now calculated, the provisions in law that provide for its calculation, with a drop in the levy lid to a dollar would actually result in the minimum levy penalty amount being exactly the same as the local effort rate. I don't think that's a...a particularly good situation either. So this is a sort of a compromise value. It's a little bit more than it currently is, but not a lot more, and it does continue the...the thrust of the state aid formula that it is a requirement that a local system financially support their school system before the state supports it. So, with that, I support the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Raikes. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I was talking to Senator Brashear about another matter and missed the discussion on Senator Wickersham's amendment, but I think I understood that this is just a technical amendment. Senator