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based on shortage of state aid and what have you.

SENATOR MINES: You know, in my opinion, it addresses communities like Kearney. They're the poster child. I believe Norfolk may have the same problems, in that they're maybe different, because some cities and counties are at their levy limit of 45 cents, or 50 cents if they have an agreement, interjurisdictional agreement. But with the sales tax, if revenues suddenly grow, then those communities can't...and usually they grow because of growth in the community. They can't spend those on the infrastructure to offset...so that they're...they're cut both ways. They're bound by a two and a half percent spending cap. And then they have growth that they need to address, and they just can't do that.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Smith, Senator Mines. Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. Kearney did have a unique problem. And that's why the Revenue Committee actually sat on that bill for a time, looking for a solution for Kearney, but reluctant to provide an avenue for spending growth that would be universal across all the municipalities. Recognizing that the public was asking government to be wise and frugal in their spending growth, we were reluctant to go the route of allowing four and a half percent growth for all municipalities and, as this amendment does, actually all governmental units. The bills were killed because we didn't find a solution that only addressed Kearney. But there is a solution that exists that the Revenue Committee was aware of, and that solution lies totally under local control. The Legislature has given the authority to local boards to go to the public and ask for a vote to override the budget lid. They can also go to the public and ask for a vote to override the levy lid. They're two separate issues. They could ask for both, or one or the other. Local government authorities can do that now. We asked them why they did not. If you as a city could go to your people and say, look, we don't have to raise your property taxes; we just want to spend these