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FLOOR DEBATE

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that basic allowable growth rate. But there would still be a 1 percent additional spending allowed by a three-fourths majority of the school board. They could get additional spending authority if student growth is a factor. They can get additional spending authority through interlocal agreements. Also, there's a provision to provide some extra growth if there is...if they are low-spending districts as compared to their peers.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Yeah. Well, at the present time, are they allowed a 2.5 percent additional growth?

SENATOR RAIKES: They're allowed 2.5, plus what they might get from the other factors I mentioned. For example, if they had 2.5 basic allowable growth presently, which they do have, they could get to 3.5 percent by a three-fourths majority vote of the...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR RAIKES: ...board to...

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Louden. Senator Vrtiska on the motion to return.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Continuing the conversation with Senator Raikes, first of all, Senator Raikes, I have to tell you, I'm not in love with this proposal, but I understand why we're doing it. And it appears to be unavoidable. But my question comes around...follows along the line that we've been talking about. In my district, we had some elections to raise the levies above the allowable \$1.00, and they failed. Now, those people who voted quite heavily against that will obviously say, the Legislature then undid what we didn't want to do. They allowed us to raise the levy when we didn't...when we voted not to do it. Now they're able to do it, the school board is able to do it by...at their own...how do you...I guess my question is, how do you respond to those people who are saying, you have now taken...the Legislature has taken