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on the committee amendments.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I do stand in support of the committee amendments. We had quite a discussion in the committee, and it was felt that we would at least go by the three years which is proposed in the committee amendment for the \$1.05 levy. I think that this would give some prediction for the school districts. I did have a little heartburn considering their concern by not having...going to the \$1.10 for at least maybe a year, because we're going to be faced with a similar situation as we come back next session with the certification at February 1. But I do support this. I hope that we will have support for the \$1.05. I think that's somewhere as we...in between the \$1.00 and the \$1.10 that, as I said earlier, when you think back to 1998, when we were looking at \$1.50, \$1.60, \$1.70 levies, that this is very reasonable. And in fact, this is still going to be very difficult for the schools to maintain without cutting staff, as I said earlier, which really means cutting programs in many of our schools. So I would give the rest of my time to Senator Raikes. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Senator Beutler. I'm sorry. Senator Raikes. I'm sorry. You yielded your time. I'm sorry, Senator Stuhr. Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Tried to cut you off.

SENATOR RAIKES: ...Senator Stuhr, and thank you, Mr. President, members. Keep in mind that I think it's critically important that we move forward with this bill now, either as amended--and I would much prefer as amended, because I think there's more agreement on that. But I think we need to move this bill. To do otherwise would be to suggest to schools and others that we're going to drop the school levy and the temporary aid adjustment which we now have in place, we're going to go back to \$1.00, when it looks like for all the world, if you look at our financial situation, we need to be going up rather than down. So not to move this forward now I think clearly gives a signal that is not in touch with reality. We need to do this. I