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FLOOR DEBATE

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start debate...the debate on Select File. But I adamantly resist the idea that this is about the children at this point in time. We're all going to protect the education of the children one way or another on Select File. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Stuthman, you're next.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. I have a little bit of a concern about the \$1.07. If valuations stayed the same, I would be in agreement that this would probably be needed. But in the atmosphere of where valuations continue to increase, new added valuations, increase in valuations to the tune of possibly 10 percent in a county, 10 to 15 percent of valuation increase. If you take that 10 percent increase in total valuation and you needed...\$1.05 was what you were getting along last year with and you needed \$1.07, that would actually be in place in the added valuations, unless I'm miscalculating something. But those figures that were given to us by Senator Raikes on how many school districts really utilized the \$1.05 already, had to go to that point, only 106 out of the 260, so there are a lot of school districts that are, you know, are able to fund their education in the situation that they have in front of them at the present time working off of increased valuations in their communities and in their districts. So those are the things that really do concern me. We do allow them to go, if this would be passed, go to the \$1.07. A few of them would probably need to utilize it but others would not be able to utilize it. But the chances of them utilizing it are by far greater than if it was not there. I have a school district in my area what has a mill levy of I believe it's \$0.49 and they have a very high cost per student, but they have a lot of valuation. So those are the things that I think we're not looking at the complete picture as far as, you know, the increase in valuation every year, most every year anyway. But if valuations would stay the same, then I would see that there would possibly be a need to increase the mill levy. But to increase both, valuations and mill levy, at the same time, I'm a little bit concerned about this, and I will return the balance of my time to the Chair. Thank you.