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to maybe look at how we set lids and limits and maybe this isn't the only one that we should look at, but I believe that this is right at the top of the list because of the fact that it isn't a part of the budget that's going to be out of whack here for a next few years. It is a part of law that the teachers and the schools are stepping up to help fix, help us manage that. And so I've been in support of this lid exclusion and I think that everyone should look at this very seriously.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, one of the impacts of putting this amount of money in the base is that it becomes part of the needs and resources formula of state aid. So it may make you feel better that over time the property tax impact will go down because once it's in the base it's then part of the needs minus resources equals aid formula of state aid. So if you're really nervous about the property tax impact of it, I must say that over time it will become our obligation because at least a portion of it will wind up coming back through the state aid formula. It'll have expanded the base permanently. It will be a property tax cost at the beginning, but once it's in the base this will be a demonstrable need. The resources will shrink because the levy limit may go away, but, for whatever purposes, then it will funnel back through for the state aid on that formula. I think I'm just stating what I believe is the implication of this process. I, myself, will ultimately vote against this amendment, and it's not because the teachers don't deserve some breaks and help or whatever. I just...I am...I think we should pull down the levy and budget limitations at some appropriate time, but they will stay there forever if we create Swiss cheese in which we have our favorite exceptions to them that make them more tolerable over time. As somebody who ultimately wants to return local control to school districts and to local political subdivisions, it's at the point at which the budget lid is too draconian that it will be repealed. The point at which we create exception after exception will continue the lids into place over time and add a cynicism to the lids as budgets grow while at the same time the Legislature claims there are limitations. And for that reason I'll vote against this amendment.