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of the community college area. This is critical, because it means that it builds itself into the funding formula. I'll explain that in a moment. Section 1 of the amendment allows for an increase in the budget of restricted funds equal to the amount collected from this increased levy, so that your levy authority and your revenue budget lids are coterminous and, therefore, there is no problem by getting an increased levy and the increased ability to spend the money that you raise. Section 4 would amend the section to extend the levy exception allowed for the community colleges to make up for any failure to appropriate the required amount of state aid for community colleges. The current law, the authority for this additional levy expires after fiscal year 2004-2005; this would keep that authority in place through 2007-2008. The amendment includes the emergency clause. Let me explain, at least slightly, what this is about. About ten years ago, I'm not exactly sure, the community colleges were reorganized and we created a system of state assistance for state...for community colleges, even though they continued to have property tax support as well. We also created our tax lid system, and we took existing budgets and we allowed for growth. In the case of community colleges, that's a 2.5 percent growth per year. With a supermajority, you can add another percent, and if there's student growth, you get the student growth. So those are the three ways in which a community college local budget can expand. The community colleges up to that point had relatively similar practices and behaviors with respect to spending for students with the exception of the Northeast Community College area. Their spending was lower than the other areas, a self-determined choice, but when the lid was applied it was then applied against relatively tight spending per student. The other community colleges were spending more per students, and when their budgets grew by the 2.5 percent, plus the 1 percent, plus student growth, they didn't have as much problems as Northeast did, because Northeast had an original budget that was tight. They'd spent down their reserves and their spending per student was low, which meant that when their desire to expand, when their rationale and their behaviors, their management practices, made them want to spend more money per students, they didn't have the resources for doing so and the lid kept them from doing that. Now this problem was self-inflicted. However, we've got about