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of accountability. And I think that the dollars were well spent. Perhaps we need a lever now to make sure that there is a fair and even distribution across the state. And I think that can be accomplished through a five-year sunset clause. But what concerns me the most is that there has kind of been this rush to increase the tax without as much discussion as I think it warrants. And I do have a question for Senator Redfield.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Redfield, would you respond to a question?

SENATOR REDFIELD: Yes, I would.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Redfield, you very adequately and appropriately pointed out the drafting errors in the floor amendment that I drafted. And I did it out of haste, and I apologize about that. You didn't really speak to the merits of decreasing...or, holding back on part of the increase. Would you support pulling it back to \$2.00, instead of \$2.25?

SENATOR REDFIELD: Well, Senator, I believe that the appropriate number would be to cut it 20 cents, if what you're looking at is the Affordable Housing Trust portion. Because 30 cents of the 50 cents is designated to the Behavioral Fund, Behavioral Health Fund. So the difference is 20 cents, not 25 cents. Should we look at cutting that? You have to look at the benefit that the state accrues when people become homeowners. They establish wealth as they build up equity in their home. That allows them not only to pay property taxes that go into the local coffers to support the schools, the cities, the counties, and the other taxing entities. And so there's a great deal of value that the general population actually accrue from that increase in activity. Should we give them an extra 20 cents? Well, that actually was the bill that I went to the Revenue Committee with, was with the intent of making them whole.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Senator Bourne referred to the fact that for three years, under the Governor's cut of the budget, \$1.5 million out of this fund was stripped out and thrown into