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local level in city government or here at the state level in the Legislature, I've wanted to cast votes that contributed to the cause that if it was property tax relief I wanted it to be meaningful. We saw a scenario just a couple of years ago where we pulled back on some state aid and allowed local property tax authority. What was the net result? Less money was spent when it did not take the form of state aid. That sent a huge message to me, and it's a message that I want to carry forward that somehow there is this mentality that state aid dollars are easier to spend. That concerns me a great deal. In these days of fiscal restraint, I want to emphasize that fact and I also want to contribute in that manner to fiscal restraint, and for that reason I must vote to sustain the veto. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Hudkins, followed by Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I will be voting to override the Governor's veto, and thank Senator Stuthman for introducing this. Senator Stuthman has been a county board member. There are others in here that have too. I have a relationship with a county board member and I understand the problems that the counties have. For the past several years, when the state has not had a lot of money, we still had to balance our budget. How did we do it? On the backs of the counties and the cities and the school districts. The Governor has chosen to reverse that process for the schools and we're very grateful for that, but the money that we're talking about, Senator Smith, is not just \$400,000. It's closer to \$4 million. That's the money that has actually been spent by counties in the care and feeding of state prisoners. Senator Schrock, you said that property values have gone up anywhere from 7 to 10 percent. Do you realize that the cost to prosecute and defend these is probably higher than that? You have the criminals You have the defense costs. prosecution costs. Isn't it amazing that these people who are being tried are being tried and defended by the same people--us, the taxpayers? This is an ongoing problem. This is a bill that has been accumulating. This is a bill that should be paid. This is not something that's a new program. This is not a new idea.