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county treasurer, or other political subdivision official who authorizes the acceptance of a credit card may impose a surcharge or convenience fee upon the user of the card to wholly or partially offset any discount or administrative fees charged to the political subdivision or the state. This may only be...this may only be applied when allowed by the operating rules and regulations of the credit card involved or when authorized by the company involved. The payment of the surcharge or convenience fee shall be deemed voluntary by the person using the card and is not refundable. Senator Cudaback, Senator Vrtiska, and the rest of the committee worked with all interested parties to make this what we think is a good bill. We addressed the concerns of the state, counties, cities, and the credit, or charge card companies, and I think the committee amendment reflects this. I would urge the adoption of the committee amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Discussion on the committee amendment, Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Madam President, and members, I just wanted to...really, there is no restriction on what it can be used for by the county and you could pay your taxes up to the amount of your credit card limit, I assume.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: That's right.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Cudaback, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: I just want to point out that, in answer to Senator Wehrbein's question, that is up to the county. The county does not have to authorize this. It's just the statutes only let them do it. If the county treasurers, if they don't like the contract that the State Treasurer come up with and the department of DAS, then they do not have to accept it. They can go out and bargain on their own. It simply permits the counties to do this. Many counties may not do it, but they want this