

asking how many counties really are affected by this.

SENATOR ANDERSON: Yeah, but just a minute, that are below minimum.

SPEAKER: I'm sorry, I didn't understand.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: How many counties are affected actually?

SENATOR ANDERSON: In terms of the minimum?

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Right.

SENATOR ANDERSON: I don't know the exact total. I'm, just from looking through the list I'd guess in the neighborhood of 20%, 15%.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: Do they come from all over the State, is there a certain pattern?

SENATOR ANDERSON: Generally speaking, they're the lower class counties. Most of the higher population counties have kept ahead of the minimum.

SPEAKER: Senator Syas, did you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR SYAS: I only rise to try to be helpful, I want you to understand that. In the first place, I think you should check this thing because first, for instance, you want, you want a cost of living wage increase in this bill so a fellow is elected for a certain amount and the inflation goes up 5% the year after he is elected, so he says, well now lookit, I'm, I'm entitled to my 5% because of inflation so give me a check, while I been here it's gone up 5%. I want you to check first whether you can have an escalating clause on a salary paid to an elected official. Secondly, I want you to check that you, whether, in that case, whether you can give retroactive pay. Now, for instance, I'm in there for four years, I'm, I'm a county official and every year it raises 5% so it, you owe me some back money all along for every year. Can I, can you make out a check to me for something that has already passed? Now, bear in mind we just had a constitutional amendment, L.B., I mean on the, that the people endorsed. It was number 14 in this Legislature, I think the number of it was, which, prior to this, prevented us from giving retroactive increases on pensions, retirements, after you took the retirement you were stuck, that's all the money you're going to get. We did pass the constitutional amendment the people endorsed that now we can give retroactive or we can give the cost of living increases in that case. But prior to that, last session, that was even barred. Now, I think, it seems to me that the Constitution would still bar retroactive pay on all the rest of them except retirement. Can you answer that, Senator Stromer, or Senator DeCamp, you're an attorney. Can you answer that question for me? As I say, I haven't any axe really on this bill, to grind--

SPEAKER: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR SYAS: I'm just trying to help you get a bill that, I just think there is some holes in it is all.

SPEAKER: I think maybe--excuse me just a minute. I think maybe the Chair should ask for a little bit of clarification. This escalation that's being discussed here as I understand it is not an amendment as yet. We're still talking about a possible amendment is that right, Senator DeCamp?

SENATOR DECAMP: Right.

SPEAKER: But you and Senator Stromer do not have an amendment, is that right?

SENATOR DECAMP: We do not have the amendment physically prepared at this time because we hope to develop some support for it