

required. If there are...if we could get down to that level with the money that we have set aside here and have excess left over, then it would be distributed to all of the school districts in the state based on the formulas that are already in LB472. If we haven't set aside enough money for that purpose to get down to that level, then we will have to prorate that money to the school districts and say that we will bring them all down to say 25 mils, or 24 mils, if the average say is 23. This is what it would do. Here is the reason I feel that this should be done. I have selected here a figure of 8 million and then if this doesn't do the job next year or the following year we could change that figure to get reasonably close. I don't say it has to be exact, I am saying as close as practical. Now here is the reason why I feel that this should be done. In it won't help my school district, I don't think any at all, because we are going to be down pretty low anyway. I have school districts in my legislative district that are still going to stay at a high level according to these computer run-outs. They are going to stay at 37-38 mils. I can't vote for having a low mil levy in my legislative...in my school district and still as a state Seantor I couldn't live with my conscience and still force other school districts to have a much higher levy than I am going to have in my school district, I sure couldn't do that, and I wouldn't want to walk into those towns and campaign again if I did that. So I want to try and bring those high mil levies at those school districts that are left over after we have attempted to equalize mil levies on a basis of 472 and then bring them down to a reasonable level which would be in line with what they are in the five most populous counties in the state. Now why do I pick the most populous counties in the state? Because those are the counties that are going to have after we put the formulas into effect for LB472 the relatively lowest mil levies. I might just as well be honest about it, this is what is going to happen. So, by picking those then we know that we are going to have to go down a ways on certain school districts so I would hope that this amendment would be adopted here on general file and if there is something wrong with it we could change it on Select File but I feel that this would put this bill into shape assuming that we really want a property tax reduction. I would like to have this amended this way and I know that you will come up with rather that this will come up with some pit falls, you say well there are some high cost districts there. I say that most of those districts if we believe in local control are high cost because they have to be in order to meet the creditation standards of the state. There might be a few that are not. But there are very few and there are very few dollars involved in those cases, so I would feel that this should not take much money. I don't think that it will take the whole 8 million but it might. At any rate if it does take the whole eight, it will all be at a common level. Then all mil levies will be brought down to a uniform level. Now if the state legislature wants to do something after this, to correct situations, correct these school districts that are having too a high a cost that is up to the legislature. We have 18 fiscal analysisist and we can go out and make studies here and we can show the people how you can cut your costs. If that is what we want to do. But we have to start something here in this regard and then have a good reason for trying to help people cut their costs, so I move this amendment to LB472.

SPEAKER: Chair recognizes Senator Syas. We are speaking on the Whitney amendment to LB472. Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: Mr. President, without having anything to go on