

have seen this amendment before. Senator Warner, for example, has done it a couple of times in previous years. The only trouble with it is that when Senator Warner did it he recognized the flaw in the amendment the way it is drafted right now and he put a percentage, for example, that this pass through or pass back to the local property tax would go at the rate of 50% of what the state gave to the county, 50% of that would go off the real estate tax. Right now the way this is amended, the way this amendment is pending, because of the fact that Medicaid costs do go up each year, you are now forcing the county to reduce by the total amount that they get back including the amount that it went up this year which means that amount of the inflation, whatever that increase was, the county now has to go back and reduce its previous level of expenditures for human services or whatever else they are spending money for. So what we need to do is put a limit on the amount of this savings that can force back into a real estate tax relief. The only trouble with that is that this is an amendment to an amendment and I can't amend it anymore. Now I have asked Senator Lewis, for example, if he would amend his own amendment to accommodate the inflationary factor there so that we would not be forcing the county to go back and lower the previous year's expenditures for services, lower at least the level of expenditures. We are really putting the county in a lot more of a bind with this amendment than we anticipate that we are. Consequently this thing should be worded in such a way that a percentage of it is forced back through but not the total thing. Now I would suggest that Senator Lewis even withdraw this particular amendment and we will put it on on Select File when we have drafted it with an amendment to change it, in other words, so that we have recognized the inflationary amount that goes in each year. That is the way we should be doing this amendment, not the way the thing is drafted now. Now if Senator Lewis would withdraw it and put it on on Select File in that proper form, fine. In the meantime, I don't know whether he will or not. I can't even see him anywhere. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Is Senator Lamb in the room? Senator Fitzgerald.

SENATOR FITZGERALD: Mr. Speaker and members, I would like to ask for the question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The question has been called for. Are there five seconds? Okay, I see five seconds. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed no. While