

evidence we have of this where we have smaller townships, fire departments and others saying we believe we should be exempted. There is no reason if we are going to do this that we should not take all subdivisions, whoever they might be, and exempt them this day. It may be one of the bravest moments of this Legislature's career to say to the people one more time, we believe in representative government. We are going to go back there and that is the way the government should function because if you want to access the subdivisions and their elected leadership, it is always open and they are there to listen to you except that too many people are willing to take to the streets with the petitions and try to, what I think many times, to bring about "mobocracy" instead of democracy. I support Senator DeCamp's proposal.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Burrows and then Senator George. We are speaking to the DeCamp amendment to the Keyes amendment.

SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, I oppose the DeCamp amendment to the Keyes amendment as I will oppose the Keyes amendment and the issue is quite simple. There are those that would like to eliminate the lid bill. Some of those same people that supported the lid bill as an alternative to a constitutional lid of 5%... the same people were supportive and I think it is a hoax on the taxpayers to eliminate the lid proposal of either LB 2 or the 7% lid in law. Both have the same principles in existence. We need some corrective measures to make the lid bill workable. The small subdivisions were no impetus for the original legislation. Almost every complaint I received as a state senator was on school district spending. It may be possible the lid should have been imposed solely on school districts as to the rationale of a lid bill. The subdivisions that have been tightfisted that have extremely small budgets are a different category than those larger subdivisions that are less accountable to the people. In most cases any district of larger size has some room to play with its budget, the small ones do not. They are different in their make-up, they are different in the discrepancies between subdivisions and budgets and the frequency of an impossible situation comes extremely high with the small subdivisions. The cost ratios of going to the ballot to exclude them from the 7% lid or to go to a constitutional or a vote of the people to include them are totally different than in the large subdivisions. I appeal to the body to try to make the lid bill workable, to not exempt all subdivisions from the lid bill and invite a constitutional amendment that might impose a 1% lid on the taxpayers on property taxes in the state and then strangle the Legislature by a super majority of possibly 40 votes as