

board has come out with some revised revenue figures downward and so we're looking at some additional problems on the revenue side. I read in the paper where the Governor is trying to come up with some budget cuts to make our budget balance as opposed to revenue increases. We don't know what those are yet. I don't know that that's what he is planning on doing, but I've read in the paper on that, but we're going to have a decision to make and that decision is going to come to us within the next three or four weeks and that's going to be, are we going to make cuts in our budget to balance our budget or are we going to make changes in our revenue side to balance our budget? The Governor has suggested to us early on that we make a cut here. This cut would be tantamount to local subdivisions of government, counties, schools, people that collect property tax. We are suggesting that isn't where we want to cut. Now make sure you understand that you're voting that way when you vote this because we could also make straight across-the-board cuts to state aid programs back to cities, counties, NRDs and schools. We can do that and we may have to do that, but if you decide that's where you want to make your cut and you want to make a significant cut, you could vote against this amendment right now. Understand what you're saying. We're talking about a \$12 million bill. If you vote to fund this deficit and the next issue out, the annualization of it, if you do that, you are saying we are not ready to make cuts to subdivisions of government in this manner. I personally am going to support the amendment, but I thought you ought to know what kind of a statement you're making so that when the budget bill comes up, when changes in budgets, whether they be cuts here or there or revenue increases, are brought to you, you understand what kind of position you're making right now.

PRESIDENT: Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President and members of the body, I will not support the cut. I feel we owe the counties those dollars and they are tax dollars, dollars that was taken from the property tax owners and the county would have to take it out of their budget, delete something else and I don't feel that is proper. It is something that we promised them and I think we should uphold that promise, but I do want to add that a bill was heard in the Revenue Committee to take a look at this and it looked like it might make some sense, but we didn't think we was quite ready so what we're