

SENATOR PAPPAS: Yes, Mr. President, colleagues, this is more of a fairness motion than probably any other thing that we have had or probably will take up later. Basically, what it deals with is putting the money back in that we took away from the municipalities on the state aid. What we talked about earlier, Senator Warner talked about, the committee basically put back in for overrides things that dealt with either health or education. Well, if you remember some of the things that we overrode, just a minute ago we had a thing like the MAT bus system for \$800,000 in Omaha, and I know that was a considerable amount of money, but that amount is larger than the total that was cut away from the League of Municipalities. So what we are looking for is to restore the \$486,000. We also restored the four hundred, I think, \$75,000 general aid cuts to the counties already put not to the municipalities along with the Medicaid, the takeover money which does deal with health, but the counties, the MAT bus system and you look at the sheet I sent out, the chart, and what has happened over the last four or five years as far as to local municipalities goes, we have cut them basically \$2 million in the last two or three, or four years and they have gone down. I think this is one thing that we need to look at and, hopefully, restore back in because it is more than a fairness issue. It is something that should be done, the way they have been treated in the past, and the way it fits in with the total override picture.

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, obviously, we are looking at a variety of individual overrides to come viewed to themselves there could be a rationale. I would rather anticipate that had we been able to have separated the county 3 percent cut and the effect of the Medicaid cut, that we would have only picked out the Medicaid, but because of the way it was drafted, we did not have that choice. The rationale for not expanding beyond the broad policy of education and health, once started there is no where to stop. Part of our rationale was that at least those municipalities would have a sales tax benefit from the broadening of the sales tax that has occurred last session. They will benefit from the broadening of the sales tax base that is included in LB 1027, 1127, which will provide additional revenue. Conceptually, it would not seem that we need to add further to the expenditure of the sales tax base of the state assuming that the tax is going to be changed, in view of the other things that have occurred, by including