

Vard Johnson and Senator DeCamp, probably the two most vociferous spokesmen towards property tax relief and local control of governments that we have had in the short term that I have been here, suggesting now all of a sudden that they reverse their course and go just the opposite way. I try to analyze why they are suggesting this kind of course and, obviously, they have some evidence in front of you. By the way, I don't have the entire amendment. Are we going to get that, Senator Johnson? I see. So we will just take your word that it will be on our desks shortly after we vote, huh? Okay, thank you. You know it comes around, I've been on the Revenue Committee for about...for two years before I went over to Appropriations, out of the frying pan into the fire, but during the hearings we had on revenue I found out what the definition of a fair tax was. Of course, that is a tax the other guy pays. Now after having sat on Appropriations for about 35 years it seems like, I have come to find out what the fair cut is. The fair cut is not mine. The fair cut is somebody else's and we as the Appropriations Committee have worked very hard to try to come up with what we think are the least painful cuts. But all of a sudden we have a proposal before you where the fair cut is the other guy, not the agencies that we have presented to you, not the agencies that the Governor has proposed to you, not the cuts across the board in those agencies that we have suggested, such as the University, but rather the other guy, the other guy meaning the local subdivisions of government, schools, cities, counties, I believe NRDs. Is that correct, Senator Johnson? NRDs are not there, just the three items? I can tell you that the appropriations for state aid to those subdivisions of government have not changed since I have been in this Legislature except to have gone down. But I think it is a classic example of the fair cut is the other guy and any of you that don't think that that is what is happening here, please reassess it. I find it incongruous that two such esteemed front-runners towards property tax relief would even offer such a suggestion and I would urge your rejection of such.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the amendment. What is fair for one should be fair for the other. If we are going to have cuts, let's not discriminate here. If a 5 percent cut is in order for our local subdivisions, let's have a