

time for your consideration.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Warner, followed by Senator Lynch.

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the amendment in part. I understand, I think, how it's intended to function. The one-third aspect that Senator Wickersham used is sort of a coincidence of trying to make up for the lost funds to the General Fund, which a variety of either tax increases, or, in this case, aid to local governments were modified. Obviously, if it takes less than 3.5 million, it has less impact on the...on the...on the General Fund, if it should work out that way. But I'm not at all sure how it would impact...what I'm saying is I'm not at all sure how you write an appropriation bill for a variable appropriation which, in effect, that...what this would become. It's...probably a way to do it, but at least it's not anything before us at the moment. But the principle back of the whole concept to start with dealt with a reduction in the county aid based upon the increase in valuation because of agricultural personal property that would be paying taxes. And the result was that there would be no decrease in the ability of the county to fund county government, because what reduction may have occurred in state aid was offset by that increase in agricultural valuation of depreciable personal property. That is a figure that can be calcul...that can be determined. It will be able to be determined prior to the time in which the local government sets its levy. I'm not sure how Senator Wickersham's amendment ties in with...at the timing of refunds. But I would imagine that there would be times, the way the bill now stands at least, I know there would be times in which refunds could be made after the calculation would be made what the county's aid would be, it would be in the same calendar year. Could happen at least. And, for those reasons, I would suggest the amendment be defeated.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Lynch. Does anyone else wish to speak to this amendment? Seeing none, do you have closing, Senator Wickersham?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Madam President. I'll just be brief. I do not, of course, share Senator Warner's concerns about the technical aspects of how you appropriate the money. The amendment would simply allow us to appropriate the