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**William Davis:** Either one. Either more millage and/or waivers.  
 The constitution does authorize voters to either waive or increase that cap. A number of districts will, either this year or next, ask voters for some relief.  
 I'm not certain whether they will be able to ask for relief one year at a time or a longer time.

**Q. Why, then, are some school boards supporting Proposal A?**  
 Dunn: I think the Michigan Association of School Boards and Michigan Association of School Administrators recognize a couple of things:

- 1) Property tax relief, at least in the minds of people, is a problem. This Proposal A is a decent attempt to resolve it.
- 2) If we can resolve it, then it will be easier for the schools to get back to business of taking care of the educational needs of the kids instead of spending 85-90 percent of their time worrying about finances.
- 3) There's a realization by management, starting with the Chrysler situation and GM, and with Mayor Coleman Young asking Detroit employees, there's a changing mood going on that we won't be able to give the 15 and 20 percent wage increases employee groups received in the past.

There is a limit.  
 They think this is a reasonable approach, far more reasonable than Tisch, and that this 6 percent cap is far more reasonable than the 2 percent cap Tisch calls for.

**Q. So you walk into the polls May 19 and there's one simple Proposal A staring you in the face: What are you going to do?**

Dunn: I'm going to vote yes.  
 Davis: Yes. Jerry and I have gone through the negatives. There's no question that a 50 percent cut in operating property taxes is a very attractive proposition for homeowners.

Tisch would have gutted the abilities of state and local governments to meet commitments that it would have cost substantial amounts of federal (matching) aid.

We estimated that under the last Tisch proposal, there would have been a \$2 billion net cost to Michigan — increased federal tax (through smaller property tax deductions) and loss of federal aid.

Dunn: Even under Proposal A, 20 to 25 percent of your savings will go back to Washington through your income tax because of decreased property tax deductions.



**William Davis**, associate director of the Michigan Municipal League: "Tisch would have gutted the abilities of state and local governments to meet commitments that it would have cost substantial amounts of federal (matching) aid."  
**BILL BRESLER**  
 staff photographer

## how tax cut plan looks on ballot

Here is the official ballot text of Proposal A as it will appear in the May 19 state-wide special election.

### PROPOSAL A

Proposal to reduce property taxes, reduce city income taxes, limit growth of property tax revenues, return additional sales tax to local governments and schools and give state lottery profits to school aid fund.

- The proposed amendment would:
1. Reduce by 50 percent homestead property taxes used for operating schools and local governments. Reduction limited to \$1,400 in 1981 and changed yearly as home values change.
  2. Reduce by 50 percent local individual income taxes on first \$40,000 of taxable income.
  3. Make state return to local governments all funds lost by above reductions.
  4. Limit yearly property tax revenue growth to 6 percent by property type unless raised by local voters.
  5. Raise sales tax from 4 percent to 5.5 percent. Raise must be returned to local governments and schools.
  6. Let farms and forests be assessed at use value.
  7. Give state lottery profits to school aid fund.

Should this amendment be adopted?

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2.00ct	420.00	280.00	2.00ct	300.00	210.00
2.25ct	500.00	330.00	2.25ct	350.00	245.00
2.50ct	580.00	380.00	2.50ct	400.00	280.00
2.75ct	660.00	430.00	2.75ct	450.00	315.00
3.00ct	740.00	480.00	3.00ct	500.00	350.00
3.25ct	820.00	530.00	3.25ct	550.00	385.00
3.50ct	900.00	580.00	3.50ct	600.00	420.00
3.75ct	980.00	630.00	3.75ct	650.00	455.00
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