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through a real estate agent, is that what this has done?

SENATOR BEYER: I don't believe so. I wouldn't say for sure but I don't believe in my understanding that it does say that.

SENATOR VICKERS: Why wouldn't it, if it deals with public property or political subdivisions?

SENATOR BEYER: Okay, it says, "Any officer or employee of the state government or any political subdivision thereof performing his or her official duties for real estate tax purposes, or", and this is new language, "or performing his or her official duties relating to the acquisition of any interest in real property when the interest is being acquired for a public purpose;".

SENATOR VICKERS: How does that mean then these political subdivisions or state government when they are acquiring property they don't have to go through a real estate agent, is that basically what that means?

SENATOR BEYER: Yes.

SENATOR VICKERS: They serve as their own real estate agent?

SENATOR BEYER: Which they can do through their own attorney basically.

SENATOR VICKERS: Okay, thank you, Senator Beyer.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Would Senator Beyer yield to a question? Senator Beyer, if your bill is passed, would that mean then that the municipalities or government subdivisions would then not have to pay that 7% or 6% real estate fee, thereby save your counties and cities whatever the fees would amount to when they are dealing in hundreds of thousands or millions of dollars?

SENATOR BEYER: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Senator.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Haberman, then Senator Newell.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to support Senator Beyers in his bill, as the federal government presently has this exemption and it seemed to be