

every year as one of the principal battles of the legislature for now eleven solid years. We accepted the notion of tying to property valuation, not too long ago, and that is exactly what my proposal does. It ties to valuation, and in my opinion, permanently settles the issue of the personal property tax fight. I submit to you that the formula proposed by my good friends, Senator Schmit, Kahle, Hefner, whoever, and supported by all of the strong lobbyists on the outside would be good for one year and one year only because it is not tied to really anything other than targeting a certain quantity of dollars like the old state aid formulas used to do, which then every year were refought and rejuggled as somebody tried to target a dollar somewhere else. The essence of the Schmit formula is this. We take a massive amount of the dollars, 30 million I think, and target it specifically to agricultural land and link it up to that. We link one million up, for example, to houses, residential property. That is good for about one year until somebody discovers that we take 30 and move it to 20 and move the other ten million over to the residential and basically you have the same old thing that goes on, people struggling to compete to change and get dollars. If you lock it into valuations, once and forever, you are going to have a property tax system out there that is fairly uniform and fairly well equalized and fairly honest, and a tax commissioner who can enforce it. He stated that publicly repeatedly. If you go with random other systems, at least if you for more than one year with them and try to lock it in for more than one year, you are just going to find that next year you will be fighting this fight over again. I supported the Schmit formula, if you recall, for one year. I could still live with it for one year, but apparently that is not what is being sought anymore. It is a permanent thing and I don't think that it will work. I realize that I am bucking the odds on this but I felt that I had to offer this. As I say it is a simple, direct system that I think will permanently settle the personal property tax question. I respectfully urge you to vote for it and if you vote for it and it gets 25, I submit that we ought to go ahead and call the issue settled and put the additional eight or ten votes on that might be required. If it fails, obviously I am going to work with whoever, whatever it takes to get the issue settled. But I think that this is the most simple, direct method right now of resolving this issue. I hope my good friend, and I do mean good friend, Senator Schmit realizes that I am merely presenting my idea, the same as he is and I do not enjoy working on the opposite side of all of my good friends out there that normally I am working on the side of, such as Mr. Ryan and Mr. Vost, the Farm Bureau, the Livestock Feeders, so on and so forth. But, I think what I am offering is the right solution. I urge you to accept it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Shall the House go under Call? All those in favor of placing the House under Call vote aye, opposed vote