

really going to provide property tax relief to this level, it's going to take a tax increase. Now, if you don't vote for the Bernard-Stevens amendment, then don't complain about the fact that it's a one-year bill. You can do it either way you want to but you've got to do it one way or the other. And I will support the Bernard-Stevens amendment and if that gets on, we have a two-year bill with a tax increase and that's what we have. And I can live with that fine because we have done more for this issue by doing that than we have done for a lot of years, I think, and I can live with that. But I think it's just, you know, it's irresponsible to sit here and say we can spend \$100 million two years in a row and think that we can do it without raising taxes. The chances are maybe you can, maybe you can't but I think you're sending the wrong message by saying, yes, we have a two-year bill that we can fund without raising taxes. We've done that before and we failed. If you're going to do it for two years, be up front, say you're going to pay for it. If not, stay with a one-year bill, come back next year and make a decision whether or not you want to continue it or whether or not you want to raise taxes to pay for it, or whether or not you have the money next year without a tax increase to pay for the second year. I urge the defeat of Senator Haberman's amendment and vote for the entire Bernard-Stevens' package at once up or down.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Haberman, please.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, I will withdraw my amendment.

PRESIDENT: Okay.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Will Senator Bernard-Stevens withdraw his amendment?

PRESIDENT: Your amendment is withdrawn. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Mr. President, yes, I will withdraw the amendment after I make one statement. I believe there is a reconsideration motion that will be pending which will, in essence, put us in the position that we were before. I do this for a couple of reasons, withdrawing the amendment. Number one, I did not intend necessarily to withhold the body from voting on 84. I sincerely wanted the body to consider and think about whether or not we're actually going to go long term funding and