

the rules and ought to think perhaps a little further about this legislation, and I would give the rest of my time to Senator Scofield.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Scofield.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Senator Wesely. You know, I've been sitting here, as I suspect a lot of you are, thinking about how nice it's going to be next Thursday and, in fact, I think I'm projecting. And so I started projecting myself ahead in time and thought I wonder where we'll be next year in April, maybe the first week in April, and I would ask you to kind of think about that as we move ahead because, given the things we have just done just today in terms of just the additions made into the budget today, we all know where we're at. Now I have supported this issue. There is probably no issue in my district any hotter than a desire for property tax relief. But we've all admitted that we're not going to get where we want to go this year, and one of the things that I felt like we should do at the beginning of the session would be to set a goal of where we want to end up at. I don't know that we've done that and I don't really think there's even a standard out there to measure how well we have done with this bill and does it go as far as we want it to this year? Does it go further? Do we need to go that far to satisfy ourselves that we have honored what I think many of us made as a commitment wanted to deal at some level of property tax relief? I don't think we have. I don't think we can say definitively that 98 million is absolutely the right level. It makes me think about some times when I don't think probably anybody else in here has ever done this, but I'm going to confess that there have been occasions when, on a moment of impulse, I have bought things that, frankly, a year later didn't look too good to me and that I kind of wished I hadn't bought; that I kind of wished maybe I'd shopped around a little bit longer. And I think maybe that's the point where we are on this bill. I think next April a lot of us will have bought something that won't look nearly as good next April as it's looking to many of us right at this moment. In fact, I think this is not a one-time issue. It's a, at the bare minimum, this has to be sustained at this level or we're all going to look like we backed out on a commitment. At this point, we haven't given anything to anybody. I think we can do some things for people at some level, perhaps we can do this whole level if we've got what it takes to go back and trim other things back. I haven't seen any evidence of a collective willingness to do that right