

So, logically, you think, well, that ended at that point then, right? Wrong. Because if anybody ended it at that point, then they were at a disadvantage. Well, it did end eventually because the federal government said this is nonsense. And so we went through this whole cycle of trying to manipulate federal tax law so that one community could have advantage over another community. We were, in effect, artificially, putting artificially a factor into the production equation so as to get away from true economic effect and true economic judgment and true economic factors, and I think that any time that you do that, you make production, overall, less productive. And when you are less productive, then overall, the overall effect of less productive economic adjustments is to make everybody poor. Well, we have already gone through the downward road to wisdom as far as federal tax policy is concerned, and now where are we? We are tinkering with local tax policy. Now we are tinkering with the property tax. We have already done this with tax increment financing, and you all should ask yourself, by the way, does a business who pays no property taxes already because of tax increment financing, are they going to get the added advantage of this new law? Ah, business will be sweet for the few that benefit, but I am suggesting to you that we are going to go through this cycle now, and the end result will be that there will be no advantage to anybody because it will all follow the same pattern. As soon as one community effectively takes advantage of this law, all competing communities must do likewise, quickly, or they will be at a disadvantage. So pretty soon we will all have stretched to the limits under the law the advantages that we can give, and once the law has been stretched to its limit, then Joe Senator from wherever, whose chamber of commerce now sees that they can get an even extra advantage if they quickly passed a law to expand the law will come in and move to expand the law. Then the law will be expanded, and then we will all do another round of giveaways to business, and further shift the property tax burden from those people to other people in the community, and everybody will be wondering why their property taxes continue to go sky-high and nothing will have been resolved.

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Nothing will have been resolved. What we are doing, I think, is, basically, futile, but there is one thing that I think eventually needs to be done, and I think the National Conference of State Legislators, I think they need to