

was paying property taxes on that. To your knowledge, is that right or wrong or...?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, it was railroad property so to the...yes, right.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Do you have any idea how much that valuation might have been? I don't.

SENATOR BEUTLER: No, I have no idea.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Okay, and if it is bought, as I was just reading a few seconds ago, by a trails group and then the ownership transferred to the NRD, then that would become nontaxed property, would it not?

SENATOR BEUTLER: That's correct.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Okay. Thank you. That's all.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Rod Johnson. There's no one else wishing to speak on the issue. Do you have closing, Senator Beutler?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President, this is a dangerous time, I guess, because five supporters of the bill are not here. I hope those of you who are on the edge on this matter will give the bill the benefit of the doubt today, but the session is such that I need to proceed to a vote on this. We're at the end of the line. But, once again, I would just remind you that this is the beginning of something. I think it's an important beginning. I think it's a beginning that is supported by thousands and thousands of people. It is opposed by a few landowners. I understand their opposition. I would be opposing too if I were one of those landowners, but it's like a number of things the time comes when we need to do certain things, when we need to promote some healthy family activities, activities that are in the vicinity of communities that can reach them, and I think this is one of the more beneficial measures that we can take to promote a healthy lifestyle among our young people. You know, so often we're behind the power curve on this drug prevention and all these things, all these problems that arise, and one of the reasons is we don't channel kids into healthy activities. We don't channel...we don't have enough family activities to divert them from some of the unhealthy activities