

some may gain, but there is no defensible way to argue to retain the system that we have now because there simply is no way, particularly where you had a school affiliation take...took place, there simply is no practical way in which that property can be identified particularly with phone companies, not quite as severe with gas companies. But, overall, there should not be a substantive change in the amount of taxes paid by these entities on a statewide, neither increase or decrease, might...there would be some adjustment probably. But it's important for you to know that you may have some entity within your district that received more...or a little less than what they previously were but there's no way to, at least that we had testified to or could see that you could correct the basic problem and that's the checkerboard that you end up with in the school affiliation districts.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Warner, your light is next. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Crosby, Senator Warner, a couple of questions, if I may, to...

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Warner.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...to see if I'm understanding this correctly. And let me start out with my first thought and concern, and please understand that this is all based on, I'm sure, a very inadequate knowledge of how the system works. But when I look at or I think about, in a general sense, what the taxes go for, you know, it's somewhere roughly at 60 percent of the taxes go to the school districts, talking about real estate taxes, generally. And then I look at this particular area and I try to think about the division that...or the system that is being advocated here. It seems to me that probably the way it would work out, if I understand it correctly, is that schools districts would get much less than 60 percent of this distribution. In the first instance, is that true or not true? I mean, let me...let me ask you this. If you just had...and this is not possible, of course, but if you just had the county and school districts, if those were your only two entities, and I assume they would both have the same valuation, at least insofar as your county and the valuation of a school district within the county, does that mean then that the money would be divided 50-50 between those two entities? Or how would that...how would that work?