

SENATOR BEUTLER: One, with Senator Warner and/or Senator Withem. One of the things that I guess I would like to see is a kind of total accounting, that is as this thing originally was described to me and as I envisioned it, we have the Governor here who is going to be responsible to all the people, essentially, even though now with the board that power is somewhat diffused. Still, in all, I think it's the Governor that will control. And this is going to be the person responsible to the people ultimately for whether this was a good project or a bad project. I mean once we pass this law the Legislature is not going to have anything to say about these projects. And I'm going to feel a lot more comfortable knowing that there is some elected official who's looking at the big picture, putting it all together and telling us, yes, people of the state, this is good for us. Now, in order to do that and in order to report to the people of the state why this is of benefit to us, it seems to me that the benefits that have to be calculated are not only the 829 benefits, but also the tax increment financing benefits under 830. And there is a provision in 830 that we didn't get to in discussion on General File, Section 26. I don't know to what extent that's an expansion of the law, but, basically, 26 essentially says that municipalities can add to tax increment financing whatever incentives they please. I mean it's wide open, it's wide open. And I'm sure, looking at that section, that there are a number of things they can do anyway, they do them now. But it certainly puts language in there that is saying with respect, not only to municipalities, but to counties and school districts and anybody else that's involved with one of these blighted areas, you can give away whatever you want. Now, it seems to me that somebody should be inventorying the candy store and adding up what it is that's being given, whether it's being given by the municipality, or by a county that's involved, or by a school district that's involved, or by the state through the income tax provision. And all those things ought to be added together when the Governor makes the decision that, yes, this is a project that is worthwhile. And it ought not to be that simply because it measures up with regard to the income tax incentives that, yeah, that makes it a good project. I think we have to look at all the costs and all of the benefits and incentives being provided. And so I will be looking at it from that perspective. And I guess I would invite further conversation on down the line, Senator Withem, now if you like, about whether that can be...whether this can be structured so that that can be done.