

April 12, 1995

fundamental change is going to have to involve a period of time and understanding, and you can't do that with reading one or two articles with one or two public hearings, it's going to have to be done over the long haul. With that I'm very grateful to the members of the Revenue Committee, of which I'm very proud to serve with, because it's a very difficult issue. They sat and listened to very, very difficult subjects and complex issues and no one has the same idea of what should be done. It's an awful great opportunity for political rhetoric, for people to step up and rail against the system. But as many of the speakers this morning have pointed out, coming up with a fairer system is really a very difficult task. I think that the committee is up for this, and I applaud Senator Warner for taking the initiative to do so and the other members of the committee who voted to do this, and I would support the rule suspension. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. I also support this motion to introduce the constitutional amendment change. This is a start of many necessary debates and discussions on this whole taxing issue and on the subdivisions of government, which is a huge, huge tackling. At our federal level we've talked a lot about reinventing government. And you know the problem is that reinventing government without getting the whole picture, without looking at broad concepts, you just have little glimpses and actually government doesn't get much reinvented. I think we're all at the threshold where change must occur. And while we all would disagree on that, we have seen the need for that change in many, many areas of public policy. I do have a question for Senator Warner, if he would yield, please.

SPEAKER WITHEM PRESIDING

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Yes.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Senator Warner, is this similar to the NSEA and Farm Bureau initiative petition proposal?

SENATOR WARNER: I don't know that they have one at this point.