

SENATOR BROMM: Okay. I would say that in my...in the area that I am familiar with, that the efforts to equalize between counties has improved greatly in the last five or six years. I know six, seven, eight years ago where school districts overlapped between counties, there were significant differences. Those differences are not nearly as great as they were then. Does that mean the system is perfect? No. And the valuation, the system, or the job of valuing real estate is terrifically difficult. It will never be perfect, and I am sure anyone, Senator Kristensen or Senator Warner or anyone else dealing with this subject would probably acknowledge that it is an inexact science. You do the best you can, and I'm...and I'm sure that in many cases the assessors, in most cases, have done that. The problem is the counties don't have the money to do a scientific appraisal as often as they should, and this bill, at the bottom of page 12, in Section 17 says that if no other relief is available, is adequate to resolve disputes, the commission may order a reappraisal of property within a county, an area within a county, or classes or subclasses of property within a county. So this commission will have the authority to order a county to do a reappraisal.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR BROMM: Now I don't know but, Senator Vrtiska, I would suggest that Richardson County today would have a hard time if they were ordered to do a countywide reappraisal. I know...I know that the county I live in would have a difficult time and we haven't had some of the challenges lately that you've had. I'm a little concerned about that, quite frankly. I don't expect that that kind of order would be given lightly or real frequently, but that is a significant power that we are giving to an appointed commission, unlike any that has existed with regard to the Board of Equalization or any other body that I'm aware of, and that's a policy choice I pointed out because I want us all to be aware that we are empowering this commission with that, as well as many other duties. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I'd like to call the question.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I see five hands. The question before you is, shall