

find some solution, some way to find a different way to fund government and schools in this state. To lower property taxes, I think it would take at least \$400 million statewide. I think Senator Warner had that figure in the paper yesterday, and I agree with him. I think it is going to take at least 400 million to be acceptable. The people that are becoming very upset with property taxes want at least that much taken off. To put a cap where we are currently at is not acceptable either. Why would you accept to pay high property taxes, put a cap where you are at, and continue to pay high property taxes? It needs to be lowered about 400 million at least and then put a cap on. Then you have accomplished something. That's the goal we need to set. I realize this resolution does not do that, but this is a goal that we have to all eventually strive to get there. I think we will get something ironed out eventually. I don't know if it will be this session, but I think we need to strive to get to lower property taxes at least that \$400 million. Because if we don't, the voters will tell us that you will do that. But we will see what happens. This is a resolution. I think it is just a goal. It doesn't have any teeth in it as far as that's what we're...this has to happen right now, this is the way it is going to be, but it's a great goal and, hopefully, we can come up with something so that the people of this state can say, finally, we have property tax relief. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Beutler would move to amend, AM2778. (See pages 415-16 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler to open on his amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, let me say for openers that I am going to vote for this resolution assuming nothing radical is done for it, regardless of whether the two amendments I have are adopted or not. And I, for one at least, am an urban legislator who is willing to go the route of property tax reduction. At the same time I am willing to do that, I'm assuming a good faith effort on everybody's part to restructure the delivery of services, that has to be a very important part of it. I also believe that we are being entirely unrealistic, obviously, to think it is all going to be done at once. It is just too much money, and there