

since a majority want to do it, that which is silly is suddenly raised to the level of "statespersonship". It just goes to show when you do things by poll or popularity quotient you wind up with something which is separate from reality and has no genuine validity. So what I would like to do is see this nonsense brought to an end, bracket this resolution, and then we can begin to discuss the rules because there may be an opportunity to adopt permanent rules before this week is over. Once the rules are adopted, something of substance will have been done. I'd like to ask Senator Beutler a question.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Beutler, if the best possible result can be achieved from this discussion, briefly speaking, what would you say that result will be? I mean like would it be adoption of the resolution or just what?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, I suppose everybody will have a different opinion about this, Senator, but my opinion would be that if we adopt, if we had adopted the resolution with my amendment I would have said that the benefit of the resolution is that this Legislature has agreed upon a fairly specific goal, that is to reduce the local levy caps by a specific, by a specific amount in a specific period of time, and that is a commitment to itself, to the Legislature itself, and that is a commitment to the public that I would think, although it legally could be ignored, would be very hard to ignore morally.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now morality has very little to do with what we do as you and I know, but I understand what you mean when you use the term in connection with this discussion. But here's what I will ask you, in view of the fact that your amendment was not adopted, of what significance is the ongoing discussion in your opinion?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, Senator, I think, I hope, although I have some doubts about it now, that in people's minds there is a commitment to do this over some period of time. I guess I have to assume that I didn't get it right in terms of what the majority thinks we're going to do, that is how they think in what time period they think it's going to be done.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Now I would like to address a