

necessarily going to decrease the size of government, we're simply going to shift who pays for it, as opposed to being the property tax payers, it'll be the sales and income tax people. The amendment that I'm going to propose to you is going to give you an opportunity to debate which of those two avenues is the appropriate one. Now my sense is that at least as one member of the Legislature, if the body ends up voting in favor of LR 297, maybe with the Beutler amendment, maybe without, maybe after voting down my proposed amendment, if we aren't going to do that, that then that we ought to follow that discipline of maintaining that approach. That we ought to when measures come out on the floor reorganizing state government, we ought to be supportive of those. When those measures come out demanding some efficiencies in how local services are developed, we ought to be supporting those. We ought to, if we're not going to support the specifics, then we ought not to be grandstanding on the general resolution is the point I would make. I think, you know, Senator Chambers could be proven to be correct. If we all vote forty-eight to one, as Senator Bernard-Stevens has predicted, in favor of this resolution and then proceed not to make the tough decisions as the time comes about to make those it will have been a waste of time. On the other hand, if we commit ourselves to what the specifics...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SPEAKER WITHEM: ...say in LR 297, this will be a very valuable use of our time and I think we'll look back having said that it was valuable use of our time. With that let me close and just indicate that, yes, I support the Beutler amendment, but I think it's time maybe we shifted away from the "lovefest" we're involved with and get down to attempting to make some, some decisions on directions we want to go, and that's what the next amendment will give you the opportunity to do.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes, Madam President, members, I first will speak specifically to the Beutler amendment, the current one, and say that I support the idea of having the Appropriations Committee and the Revenue Committee report back to the Legislature each year as far as what progress has been made and what we are accomplishing. The one part that I do not particularly support and I'll certainly be interested in