

And I think at the local level, they need to understand as well that if they're going to, as they say, if they're going to talk the talk they need to walk the walk. And that is if they're really saying it's a priority, then you make it a priority and you do so. But just to say it's a priority but say we don't have the resources because we've actually put the resources elsewhere, I think is not walking the walk. And the local areas, and this includes my own, it includes, I think, statewide, need to understand that we can't come to the Legislature on every topic that we want to do something and say we don't have the resources because the state, if we do something on property tax, we're not going to have it either. That's the first point. The second point I want to make is I'm getting a little disturbed about the process that we're beginning to follow. Not legislatively, I'm looking at some of the bills, I'm looking at LB 1044 that we'll be debating tomorrow, I suspect, if we get to Select File tomorrow. If you think about it, on 1044, we're going to be committing ourselves to a major change, but then all the details, the fine line details on the budget will come next year. This is the same type of concept. We're going to open up the funding mechanisms, we're going to create all the possibilities, but the administration or DED doesn't have to come forward this year and say, this is what we want to do and this is how much it's going to cost. They'll come next year. Surprise. Surprise. After the election we'll come back. And one of the things I get really disturbed at is we...when I was on the Appropriations Committee we had severe questions as to whether or not DED should even be in the housing business. I still don't think they should be. I don't think they have the expertise to be in the housing business. But even assuming for a minute that they do, or they have somehow managed to create the expertise for the housing business, the dollars that they have now, they should be able to look at NIFA, they should be able to look at the tax increment financing options that are out there, they should be able to look at their priorities in DED and say to the Legislature, here's our overall package, here's what we want to do, here are the funds we will dedicate to it, and here are the funds that we are going to ask...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...the Legislature for because this is what we're going to do. We don't have any leadership like that