

One we'll call in councils, one of which will be at the state level and another at local level, in order to provide the kind of a framework for discussions. It would go broader than just between counties, however, but to generate the kind of discussions that's envisioned here. I'm wondering, Senator Beutler, since we can't amend, there are some things that maybe you can respond to. It's not real clear to me. It's suggested by resolution there should be six proposals for consolidation. I'm not...I'm not quite sure if I understand their reasons for that. What I was wondering, if it would be agreeable with you if we took Section 9, subsection (1) and have that each county board shall thoroughly examine by January...I'm going to suggest January of '98, prior to the session, and thereafter hold a pub...well, hold a public hearing? Excuse me, the report should be done by January. But there...hold a public hearing on the question of whether property taxes might be reduced through consolidation with an adjoining county and should be offices in function 'cause it's broader than that. An examination shall include a fiscal analysis of estimated property tax savings, if any, anticipated by a consolidation with each adjoining county and there ought to be consolidation merger and cooperative efforts. For at this time, since we can't amend, if you would consider doing just Section 1 for now and then see if we can fill out a little more of the detail later, later on, on Select File or later on General File if the bill doesn't move real quickly, but I appreciate the concept of wanting to make sure that activity is going on. That certainly is important to the whole process. And I guess I'd ask Senator Beutler if, for now, we could redraft and do one with a couple of wordings so that we have the concept in there and then perhaps refine a little bit the balance of it as to the process. I see nothing wrong with the concept that we are notified what's being done, so that you know activity's being...being accomplished across the state. But I guess, Senator Beutler, I'd ask you to yield...not to yield, but if you would respond to those comments.

SENATOR WILL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, first of all, I apologize, in the sense that like so many things that tend to go on late in the session, I have not had the opportunity to pass it around to everybody soon enough, and I would absolutely be amenable to doing that. Why don't we just work on the language a little bit while other people discuss it and I'll withdraw it and we'll do