

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you feel this is really doing anything other than expressing a wish and a hope, even though it says "shall"?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I...yes, I think that if you ask them to do this and if they have to have a public meeting and face the public that they're going to want to have some basis in fact when they come to face the public, some rationale, some figures, some ability to say, yes, we did explore it seriously. Now my desire is to have more detail, to give them more of an indication of the types of things that they could do and to encourage them more to go through a more thorough process.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, now...

SENATOR BEUTLER: But I think that if my experience...if the experience with counties is like the experience with NRDs, who are also very independent kinds of folks, if you ask them to do something and if they believe it to be reasonable, which I think they would believe this to be, most of them will do it. Because it's local control a few of them will fail miserably, but most of them will do pretty well.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, now at what point, in terms of relationship to looking at a consolidation agreement, would this, that your amendment talking about, take place?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I would envision...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: At what point in the process?

SENATOR BEUTLER: ..this as the opening process, the beginning of the examination, the public hearing probably further examination, all of which hopefully would result in the end in some kind of consolidation agreement as envisioned by Senator Wickersham and/or Senator Warner.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, now when we get to 1085, I'm going to have somebody who thoroughly understands this bill give me a step-by-step breakdown of each thing that is to occur, when it is to occur, what the consequences are if it does not occur, and then blend what you are offering here into that process so that we don't just have something sitting out there as an amendment