

the bills are that are going to be dumped on us. But what I think the Legislature is trying to do is prevent some of those idiotic petitions from obtaining enough signatures to have an issue placed on the ballot, then that provision or proposal obtaining enough votes during the election to have it added to the constitution. The public is not wise.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The public is not informed. Alexander Hamilton said the public are like a great beast, bridled, saddled, and waiting to be ridden. So for the Legislature to pretend that the public is informed and understands what we're talking about when we don't even understand half of it, I think is not really a wise thing to do, but I think it is politically astute, cunning, and probably effective. But as the bills come up and I'm confused or lacking in understanding, I'm going to ask questions then make comments that I think are appropriate to the occasion. But I'm going to support Senator Beutler's amendment, by the way.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Beutler, you're recognized to close on your amendment. Senator Beutler, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Withem, members of the Legislature, again, just to orient you to what this is. This is a proposal that was part of the Natural Resources Committee's contribution to the overall property tax study working with the entities within our jurisdiction, and in this case specifically the NRDs, and trying to figure out what the best way was, how everybody could be in agreement on how we could study this particular area and try to get out of this area some greater efficiencies. And you all know that we can't impose these efficiencies from the top down. It's got to be a part of everybody's thinking and everybody's got to be involved in it. And there have to be studies that can suggest to us how we can actually do these things better. And this is not just a pointless study, this is aimed towards particular things and they're asked to come back to us with five specific...with their five best ideas on how to make things more efficient. So we will have more information from this study that will be directly usable in the next couple of years to try to do our part in the area that we're dealing with in terms of making things more efficient. And I think if you're looking at this whole big property tax thing, we're going