

to have to do some things to encourage efficiencies, otherwise things will not become more efficient and somehow that money will have to be made up. And I don't know how you all feel, but for myself I'm going to be reluctant to be shifting funds to local political subdivisions if they in turn aren't making their operations just as efficient as they can possibly be. Now I would like to think, like the rest of you would like to think, that if we do nothing at all they'll all study their efficiencies and we'll get all this information back on how to act. But you and I know from real experience that it doesn't happen that way, that we need to get everybody involved, we need some active participation, and we need to have some results coming from the bottom up. And I think if we're serious about restructuring inefficiencies, and I thought we were in the sense that the Revenue Committee had been asking all the committees to come up with their ideas that we need to do things like this in order to facilitate the overall change to a reduced property tax levy. So I see this as an endorsement of the whole process that we've been working at. I see it as encouraging people to make those hard decisions, decisions that are very hard to make. And I think things like this need to be done in all different areas, but I leave it to the other committees to know their entities, to know their institutions, to know how they best can get this kind of information up in front of the body so that we can act, so that we can facilitate efficiency. And this was the Natural Resources Committee's suggestion working with the NRDs and working with the commission. And I think we can make this work, I think we can make this work. We have NRDs out there who have very low property tax bases, they recognize this, they're not able to do work as efficiently or as ably as other districts. It might be possible to look at combinations of valuations that would make the whole situation more fluid and more efficient. Lots of things out there that you can look at with the NRDs. And I think they will do that as a result of this very directed study, and I hope you will encourage them to do it by approving this particular amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: You've heard the closing. The question before the body is the adoption of the Beutler amendment. All of those in favor vote aye. opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Beutler's amendment.