

nicely into the constraints of 1114 as you have it before you this evening. So, Senator Hillman, if you have additional questions about the common levy concept for community colleges, I'll be happy to come visit with you again. But that's it in very broad brush. Thank you.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Wehrbein, followed by Senators Coordsen, Maurstad, and Kristensen.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members, I'll be fairly brief. At first blush I was inclined to support Senator Beutler, upon reflection I realized that we can't. I think we have to recognize...we can't at this point. I think we have to recognize the need for something to happen. It may well be one year from right now, be interesting to mark our calendars, of what we will be debating, because I would guess that we'll perhaps be debating how are we going to replace maybe \$400 million of property tax relief that may go out as a result of the constitutional amendments, one or many, that may pass. But I think at this time we, even though I recognize the need for education, I've certainly had many comments, even threats in the last two or three weeks about this subject that you can't do this, and we can't do that, the sky is falling, we can't respond, you've got to do this. Perhaps we have...we simply have to react a little more to the realization that there's change, change is coming. Even if we do nothing there's going to be changes occurring in education as well as there is in the business world, state government, whatever, we have to react to that. And I simply think at this point it's probably necessary to keep on the path that we're pursuing with 1114, simply to get one...all of our attitudes, wherever, including not only here, but across the state, that we've got to do somewhat of a better job. I don't...an entrepreneurial spirit, if you will, and I know that that's going to be considered an unkind word by many, but we've got to look at this that we're going to do the same job that we're doing now for our kids, but we're going to do it for less. Much easier said than done, I recognize that. But moving ahead with Senator Beutler's bill...amendment right at this point it's going to take the pressure off. And I don't think any of us, wherever we are, are going to react unless we have pressure. And I think some things can be done if we all start looking at things in a different light. And if this is what it's going to take, then I'm willing to take that risk, at