

we will see how it goes down. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. Senator Beutler, I appreciate the comments you made. We talk about irrational. I just wanted to tell you that over this past week, I've had a lot of discussion with a lot of city administrators and school superintendents, as well as a lot of taxpayers. And when we discuss irrational, we wonder who is irrational in this process because what I'm hearing from most of the people that you are talking about are certainly concerned about the future of education, as well as I am, but when you take into account, I live down in an area where across the river land taxes are a third less or two-thirds less than they are in Nebraska and those people are upset and wonder why there can't be some adjustment, and this bill to me, in some way, addresses that issue. But I truly believe that what is built into the bill, where there is an option for those who feel they have been unjustly attacked with the lowering of their levies have the option, certainly, to do that. And I am in firm belief, as Senator Warner has indicated, that certainly over the next two years, we will have an option to make some fine tuning, and I guess what really bothers me is if we, in fact, don't want to carry forth with something serious from this body that certainly some of those with constitutional amendments out there will certainly do a greater attempt to do that, and I don't think that's in the best interest of the school districts or the cities or anyone else. I'd hope we could work our way through this thing, and as close to its present form as we can to demonstrate that we are serious about trying to resolve the tax issue. But I concur with you that we probably need some type of a attitude and some way express that we do intend to allow some of the replacement because I can assure you that some of these schools are being hit pretty hard, as you well know. So I guess it's a case of, I guess as has been expressed before, damned if you do and damned if you don't, but what it comes down to is we need to do something in order to express our concern about responsibility to the taxpayers, as well as responsibility to the school districts and the other entities of government who are being affected by this type of legislation. I think there is a desire among a great many people in this body to do what is the fairest and still accomplish the end of reducing some of the property tax load that is being borne at the present time by