

they're not going anywhere this year. So, yeah, it's a tough thing to put limits on budgets and levy caps, and I applaud the committee for taking those steps. But I think the really hard work is trying to decide how we achieve those kind of goals. And that kind of work is what we're discussing here. It means we have to take structures of services and change them to be more efficient. And that means hard decisions and real savings in the end. The abstract, again we talked about that all day. The abstract, that's hard but it's not as hard as the real world of what kind of changes we want to see happen. That's what we're talking about here. This is the one bill that comes down into the reality of what it's going to take to save money. Now some will argue, and Senator Chambers is right, a lot of times when we talk about budget cuts, you get hit with the services. The recipients of those services, the people in need in this state, may get hit. They have a lack of services. I'm suggesting that, as we talk about tightening up on the budget as we look at federal budget cuts, let's make sure that we have a system in place that does the best that we have with the money that we have, and spreads that money as efficiently as possible to those truly in need. That's what we're talking about with this proposal. Now, the savings involved with property taxes, I think are substantial. I do not think they're insubstantial. I oppose the Chambers amendment, but we don't try and argue that in the language in the bill. The word "substantial" is not in the bill, that's subjective. The reality is what's in the bill, and I would ask your opposition to this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers, on the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Wesely a question. Senator Wesely, are you willing then to strike all reference to property tax revenue from the bill because this...the only reason that's there is to have this false flag, in my opinion. I'm characterizing it that way. Why is it essential to make any reference to property tax revenue in the bill?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wesely, do you care to respond?

SENATOR WESELY: Well, again, I think Senator Vrtiska asked what I was trying to do with this legislation. I do see two efforts. One is to recognize that property tax is going to pay for health and human services. It's not the best source of revenue, that