

too and there's nothing in law that keeps them from doing that. They can do it through the ESU or they can do it through...

SENATOR ROBINSON: Sure.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ..interlocal cooperation agreements.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay. Thank you.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Beutler, your light is next.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Will, members of the Legislature, I think I will not take much more time. This is not intended to be a filibuster, but this is intended I think to address a very serious aspect of it. I appreciate the time that Senator Robinson gave me because I did want to emphasize the fact that two people have talked about a report and there's no report involved here whatsoever to anybody. This is the school district's own thing. They do it. They satisfy themselves one way or another, that's that. The other thing I wanted to mention is just the fact that Senator Kristensen talked a little bit about the idea of communities as a whole looking at this tax problem and thinking through what can we do, community as a whole. I really like that idea. I don't...I haven't seen it, I haven't seen the amendment or how it fits in or what exactly it is, but it, just offhand, it strikes me as an excellent idea. However, I don't see where that idea is exclusive of this idea. In fact, I would argue that they both fit together. Because if you can get decent financial information then you have some basis in fact for going to this larger group with the school piece there and when you talk to the property tax payers as a whole and you talk about the different segments of their problem--their property tax with the school district, their property tax with the county, their property tax with the NRD, et cetera--then with respect to the school districts you have something solid to talk about. You have a fiscal estimate. You have an exploration that's gone on, on that huge 60 percent piece of your problem. Why would you not want to have that information? What value is your discussion if you don't get down to the nuts and bolts and the dollar signs with respect to the problem? It's nice to have a general conceptual discussion, but in light of strong local feelings associated with local communities you're not going to overcome those types of problems