

you look at it in many different ways and I think in the end will be seen as a very historic one. It would be nice if we could move smoothly to the end, having moved directly and firmly towards a goal but without anybody trying to overreach, and I think that this amendment, not intended that way, I know, represents in the full context of this package a bit of overreaching. Thank you.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well, you know, we're here and so far I think Senator Beutler is correct. The session so far has gone pretty good, but now is the time when you get to make a decision. What this is all about is very, very simple. Do you really believe that property tax is a problem? Do you? My guess is that a number of people that voted yes for this last one would say it's a great issue, I can stand on the table and talk about how terrible property tax is, but I don't have an answer, or, it's not a problem. What really has happened in here is all about how much will do you have and how much courage do you have to really tackle the property tax problem. You know why Senator Schrock's amendment doesn't work? Very easy. It says that you can't go over 100 percent for homes. That's what the law is today. That's what the constitution is today. Well, what could happen under that amendment? I could take ag land values down to 40 percent. I could take homes down to 40 percent. I could take all the property tax to 5 percent of market value. Does it change what goes on? No. And why not? Because valuation isn't the sole determination of what your tax is. It's spending. It's the combination of spending versus the valuation. And I'm not going to talk to my rural colleagues because they're going to vote for this amendment because they're going to go home and they're going to say, we showed them. We showed them. We got a bunch of people from Omaha to come with us. we got a few others and we showed them and we showed them real good. But you better hope that amendment passes because, if not, the next two sessions of this Legislature are going to be pretty stormy 'cause my guess is here's what's going to happen. Commercial property will come in and be able to show that for years they've been overvalued to the expense of residential. You're going to have residential payers that are going to come in and show that they've been discriminated against, and so there'll be a constant moving down. And what