

increase one tax to reduce property tax and it's a temporary situation. This we hear constantly. Fact that I'm not...I have no interest in this legislation because of petitions. That's not a motivation. It is true that if we do nothing, I suspect petitions may gain some acceleration, may not. I don't know. But what I do believe is that there is a belief that we need to be looking at restructuring how we provide local services, that we need to be looking for ways to be more cost efficient. That no longer is the answer, one, that many of the bills have been introduced in recent years where we increased one tax to reduce another, those are not the answers now, nor is it only a tax issue. It's also the issue we just talked about somewhat this morning with the constitutional amendment that is in process, hopefully, of being enacted and placed on the ballot. But it's the issue of trying to encourage cooperative efforts, it's intended and will be an amendment attached to (LB) 299, when we get to that, that will be looking at the various mandates that we have on local government, and things that perhaps will be eased. We had receipt of a letter from the State Board of Education along the same lines, where they wanted to look at mandates that they have to rules and regs that might ease the cost of local government in that case schools, or we're not just talking schools, but all of this is designed for a process over a couple of years. And there are those who will tell you that's overly optimistic, and perhaps it is, but I don't think so. I have a lot more faith in the public than perhaps some. And my faith is if there is a process in place where they see that their local governments, as well as the state, is looking for ways to try to be more cost effective, to avoid unnecessary expenses, to emphasize those priorities that we know are there, that then you build a confidence.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR WARNER: If it takes additional alternative taxes you build a confidence that that will be acceptable, but it's not now. And I would have a concern if this is attached here, I suspect it will be vetoed, obviously would not be overridden, and that's...will be the end of the process, and maybe that's what some would like and let fate be whatever it is outside this body, and that's fine. But this is laying out a two-year process. The implementation of a study resolution, which will involve a number of legislative committees again looking at this whole broad scope is what's envisioned, and I guess it can fail.