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Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, Senator Brashear, I would like to ask you some questions, if I might. I wanted to talk a little bit, if I'm understanding the amendment right, new construction is not taxed under your amendment. Is that correct?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Are you asking me?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I am asking you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Brashear, will you respond?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Yes, Mr. President. Yes, Senator Beutler, that's correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, if it were taxed, how much revenue would it generate, approximately?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: I'm informed, a number that we recall, \$70 million, \$80 million, something in that natur...name.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, that's the number that I recall also. Now here's my question. As I go through this debate, it's always kind of property taxes on one hand, other taxes on the other hand. New construction, if we...you can tax new construction and part of the benefit of doing that, to me, would be that by virtue of doing that you can keep the property taxes on that same house down. Because if we don't have the money at the state level, then we're going to cut aid to the various political subdivisions. We are going to do a number of things, increase levies, which will cause the property taxes on that new house to go up. Why, in your...well, first of all, did you have this exemption in your original bill? Secondly, what is the justification for the exemption? And, thirdly, what about that balancing act between this new house that would benefit from lower property taxes if we had the original sales tax to help alleviate the property tax?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Senator Beutler, if I'm recollecting