## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 9, 2005 LB 44

deductions and are not able to itemize them again. that...those are the ones that are going to be paying a bigger bill. That's the concern that I have. You know, Senator Heidemann mentioned, you know, additional costs to the county. If a county is going to have to mail all these valuation notices out and it's \$1,000, where does that \$1,000 come from? It comes from the assessor's budget. Where does the assessor's budget come from? Property tax. So let's look at the big picture. You know, this is not a property tax relief. It's a shift, is That is some of the concerns that I have. what it is. know, we're not really solving anything. If, like Senator Redfield stated, you know, if you have the grandfather's house on your property and that could be exempt, that's only if the individual lived in that home. You must own and occupy the residence to get a tax exempt, is what you have to do. So with that, those are the comments that I have for right now, and I'm really concerned about this. We look at it, and it's going to cost the state \$100,000 to administer that. Where's that \$100,000 going to come from? It's going to come out of somebody's pocket to do it. It's not going to come out of the trees or from the birds. It's going to come from taxpayers. And that's an expense...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: ...that realistically it's not going to have any benefit for. And if the counties are going to have an additional expense to administer this program for tax relief, that's going to take more money. So I think, looking at the big picture, I think we're creating additional problems and we're not solving anything, because any time you add one more procedure to anything, it costs money, and I think that's what we're doing. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuthman. Senator Redfield, and this will be your third time, Senator.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. We have provided property tax relief to people who are over 65 and low income, and it was truly a tax shift. It's about \$35 million, or perhaps more, and somebody else paid higher taxes, income and