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FLOOR DEBATE

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very good proposal. So was the proposal when we established the state assessors, which was permissive. You could choose to use the state's assessor. And I happened to live in a county that did that. They assumed the state assessor, and it saved that county a lot of money. The county I represent is Dodge County. We have one of the lowest, if not the lowest, levies of all the counties in the state. And having the state assessor was one of those reasons. Now, and I think that would also add to the revenues of the county if we assumed the clerk of district court, but I fear that the same thing would happen. Now, that is one of the reasons that, you know, I'm on the fence on this bill. I'd certainly like to support it, because I can see the benefits that it would bring to the counties and to the whole judicial system. Then I listen to Senator Pederson talk about what is, you know, the problems that the Appropriations Committee have. Like I say, in a perfect world I think this would be absolutely great. But with the revenue streams that we're witnessing...and being on the Revenue Committee, I can see what...yeah, we see...hear so many bills there, and they're all good bills. Someone has done a lot of work on those bills. But we cannot use every idea that comes before that committee, because the revenues just aren't there. So I'm going to sit back and listen to the debate. Senator Beutler, you've worked so hard on this for so many years, and it's a good idea, it's a great idea. But there are a lot of great ideas out there, but the revenues just aren't there to keep those things in place. This is probably the last time I'll talk on this bill, and I hope you can understand my feelings. And Senator Beutler, if you'd like the rest of my time, you're certainly welcome to it.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Beutler, you have about 2, 15.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, thank you. Obviously, I'd like to persuade you otherwise than the direction you're going, Senator. But let me say first of all that there has never been a better time for this bill than now in the whole time I've been in the Legislature, 20-some years. The revenues are better now than they've ever been. If...and by the way, the new revenue required is not \$13 million, as has been stated earlier. The new revenue required is about \$7.5 million, because there are offsetting fees, child support fees and county court fees, that