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burden, and so I think that Senator Beutler needs more time to convince us why this is a good idea and why it's sustainable in the budget situation that we so frequently face around here, with its ups and downs. And I would yield the remainder of my time to Senator Beutler.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, 3.5.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudback, members of the Legislature, making structural reform in the manner that this bill provides is always the most difficult thing for us, and almost never can we make these kinds of changes without some opposition somewhere, because it changes fundamentally the way basic units of government relate. So you can make these kinds of changes at one time, or you can make them over a period of time and transition them, or you can just give up having good government and not make the changes at all. When this bill went to the Governor several years ago, it went at a time when the revenues dipped dramatically, and even though you all passed that bill and we sent it to the Governor, it was vetoed because of the declining revenues. So it couldn't get done when times were bad. Now, for the last two years, we have the best revenue situation that we've had, historically, in a long, long time, and if you cannot make room for basic structural change in a period when revenues are maximized, what hope is there for efficient government? In Iowa they've already done this. In Iowa they're consolidating their clerks of the county court and their clerks of the district court, and they're able to do that because they're now all on the state level. They're all state employees, so they can consolidate and they can save expenditures with regard to employees. Clerks of the county court, clerks of the district court do the same kind of work. They file the cases, in the one case for the county court and the other case for the district court. That's work that's easily integrated together. But we cannot do it until we get to the place where both of those units are state units, because we cannot constitutionally and we cannot as a practical matter do it otherwise. So if we cannot do it now, Senator Redfield,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.