

March 8, 1984

LB 341

million for homestead exemption, minimum \$25 to \$50 million for either teacher stipend or income aid, you are at \$877 million and that doesn't count a potential \$50 or \$60 million from Commonwealth. Now out of the lower end of that funnel comes the money out of the tax rates that this body is going to set a day or two before we adjourn and go home and there is a lot more going into the top of this funnel than coming out of the bottom. We are going to set those rates. Now the last recommendation I heard from the Governor's office came in his budget message. That was three and half and eighteen. I haven't heard any change of direction from the administration and until such time as I do, I won't support a tax rate beyond his recommendations. Now, frankly, I didn't vote for 994 the other day in spite of the benefits and the merits of the bill and I didn't vote and I won't vote for that type of a bill until I am, frankly, willing to go green and fully fund on the A bill that goes with it. Senator Newell spoke just a few minutes ago of his lid bill. I am going to support that bill, but a state budget increase beyond the scope of Senator Newell's bill in effect says to every city, county and school board in this state, don't do as we do, do as we tell you to do. Frankly, friends, I can't be that hypocritical and that is the reason at this time I can't support the bill. I am amazed at the property tax relief mentality that has come about recently in this body that in effect says to me, when I am a homeowner, Fenger, your taxes this year are fourteen hundred bucks. Next year they should be sixteen hundred but because of our magnanimous efforts at property tax relief they are only going to be fifteen hundred. That, my friends, your constituents don't believe is property tax relief. I can't support the bill. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. President and colleagues, I'll be brief because I know many of the arguments have already been made on this bill. Let me just add my name to the list of people that are going to support it. I think it is an excellent concept that Senator Vickers has brought to this body in the form of LB 341. As many of you know that have