

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I also just wanted to quickly comment and quickly support the Pappas motion. I think Senator Warner has made it quite clear. I guess the point I would reemphasize is that we are cutting off all our options unless we bring this back onto the floor. If you think that there might be, for example, alternative forms of property tax relief in the form of A bills that are coming through this year, maybe that you would want to enact some of those rather than \$18 million worth of homestead exemption. So you know it is not just a matter of property tax relief versus other kinds of expenditures, but it is a matter of alternative forms of property tax relief, and for myself, I have never particularly been in favor at this particular point in time in our history of straight homestead exemption property tax relief in part for the reason that I think there are a whole number of institutional and structural reforms that provide property tax relief on the one hand and also provide for better government on the other hand. For example, Senator Johnson himself a few years ago had a bill that provided for the state takeover of the medical, county medical payments system. That was the kind of property tax relief that I really like because, one, it gave property tax relief, real property tax relief and, two, it reformed a system that was badly in need of reform, and there are a whole number of these kinds of reforms or structural changes out there that need to be done where you can provide a dual purpose, that is the purpose of better government and also property tax relief, and it may well be this year that there will be some A bills like that that will perform that dual function and you may want to, for example, cut down this \$18 million of homestead relief and provide some other kind of property tax relief that you think serves more purposes or, of course, in the end the money might be there in case you think there are some state functions that deserve some of that \$18 million. But the main point again is Senator Warner's point I think, and the point that has been made by others, is to keep the options open. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Remmers. After that for information, the Chair has these Senators to recognize, Senators Higgins, Warner, Hefner, and DeCamp, and the Speaker has asked me to announce to the people here in the galleries and elsewhere that on his agenda he has set LB 662 which concerns Class I school districts among other things to be discussed on the floor next Tuesday. LB 662 is