

an issue here of equal taxation and we are becoming to come to grips with it. But I would a lot rather see Senator Schmit's amendment stay on there instead of Senator Vard Johnson's. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: (Gavel.) Ladies and gentlemen, could you hold it down? Under the south balcony, in the middle aisle, under the north balcony, the combination of all the noise is too much. Please hold it down. Senator Beutler and then Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I am going to vote for the Vard Johnson amendment, but at the same time I am doing that and I am sure this sounds entirely contradictory, but I don't feel like I am voting against the Schmit amendment. And I say that because I think that the reality of life is that whether it is this year or whether it is next year, sometime before 1989 one way or another we have to get down to reality, the reality of what we will, in fact, do. And when you get down to that reality then really you are at the Vard Johnson amendment. I guess what I am suggesting to you that if you adopted the Schmit amendment today, you would be back to the Vard Johnson amendment before 1989 anyway, because there is only so much realistically that can be done. When Senator Schmit got his amendment attached on Select File, it was a great victory for Senator Schmit and it was a great victory for those in favor of property tax relief. But I don't feel realistically that the Vard Johnson amendment takes hardly anything at all away from that victory. Just to give you some perspective, during my seven years in the Legislature with regard to the question of state aid, the largest dollar amount of state aid since 1979 that this Legislature has had the intestinal fortitude to pass was \$40 million; \$40 million, and of that \$40 million, 20 million of it had to be passed over the veto of the Governor. And you know whatever year we are talking about whether the Governor is Republican or Democrat, he is going to have a hard time swallowing large amounts of property tax relief at once. So what I am saying is that this \$110 million, \$110 million that is represented, of state aid, that is represented by the Vard Johnson amendment and which is there because Senator Schmit forced it to be there, that \$110 million is \$70 million more than this Legislature has ever done in a single legislative session and represents, I think, probably the highest goal we could