

increase of 28 percent. These 7,673 homes have an indicated or net of \$8 million in valuation. Without this change that I am proposing in 556, there would be approximately a \$38 million net for 1986. In other words, the valuation today is \$8 million. Without this change it will be \$38 million. The proposed increase to \$45,000 would not increase the state tax loss as reimbursed by the State Treasury. I also handed out to you yesterday a sheet giving you the income in dollars for the households and the percentage of relief. Mind you, I am talking about low income elderly. Many of them don't get 100 percent. Some of them get as low as 20 percent. We are talking about people that want to stay in their home, maintain their own home. And, believe me, with the medical expenses today not covered by Medicare, not covered by insurance, these people are having a very difficult time. And if you want the counties to save money, let them stay in their own home. Otherwise, you will find them in nursing homes and on welfare and on food stamps and energy assistance. I ask you to bring LB 556 to the floor of the Legislature and let it go through the system and at least help me bring it out today. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Tim Hall. Next is Senator Landis.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President and members, I rise to support Senator Labeledz and LB 556, her motion to bring it out of committee. As she stated, many of the homeowners that are currently receiving this exemption will be paying taxes. They are paying taxes now. Even with 556 in place, an additional \$10,000 exemption, they will be paying taxes. I don't think that anything has risen as much in the last four years as property tax values. We see that people will be paying more, especially in Douglas County, because of the recent reevaluations that we have had there. But this specifically deals with low income individuals. LB 556 does not raise the limits. It only asks that we get closer to the status quo, closer to what we have paid or allowed in 1980 with the \$35,000, closer to the dollar-for-dollar exemption that was allowed at that time. When I first came to the Legislature only eight short months ago, the first thing that I had to deal with was Amendment 4 and ag land valuations and the big issue there was that we asked only to retain the status quo, that the Kearney case and the Holiday Inn out there and the suit that was filed and the Attorney