

what does it say? It's got the average income of every farmer in each county. For instance, Cherry County, \$8,038. Those are in white. Then in the dark color are those that are above the statewide average. Statewide average was \$14,231, which I understand includes an allowance for the home, and for the garden and that sort of thing. Anyway you've got a number of these counties that are below average, and, of course, a number of counties which are above average in agricultural income in the state. Right now, according to the map, which includes the increases and decreases according to the formula proposed by the Revenue Committee, here is the way it works. Seventy-six percent of the counties with below average farm and ranch income will experience an increase in valuation. Let me repeat that, 76 percent of the counties with below average farm and ranch income will experience an increase in valuation under the Revenue Committee formula. On the other hand, 61 percent of the counties with above average farm income will have a decrease in the valuation of their agricultural land. Now you know this doesn't prove one thing or another, but I think it indicates a trend that maybe these numbers are not exactly right. Why would predominantly those with the low income be experiencing an increase in valuation under this new formula if it is exactly accurate? See, that brings up another concern I have about this. We are going to leave valuation essentially in the hands of a bureaucrat somewhere, some statistician, some SCS person, maybe some University person comes up with the number, the numerator in this formula. The numerator is on the top, you know. Down below is the denominator and that is 11 percent. I don't argue with that 11 percent cap rate. But I don't know about those numbers that are put in there up above. We aren't going to have any control. We probably shouldn't have any control, but we don't have any responsibility there if this thing passes and neither does the Department of Revenue, neither does the local county assessor. So we are actually leaving the valuation in the hands of somebody that sets those numbers as a result of the best information they have. I am not sure we want to go 100 percent to that formula the first year. I'm sorry that none of the amendments that have been offered have been adopted. I think that first amendment Senator Warner had would at least give us a guideline, at least give us a guideline. I hope by the time this bill is on Select File...

SENATOR BEUTLER: One minute.