

people too. They have a property tax burden. I assure you they have. I voted for every bill that would give everyone property tax relief and I will continue to do so. I have four children of my own and I know how they are struggling to pay their property tax. I struggled when I was raising my family, but I took two jobs in order to be able to afford the property tax that I was forced to pay and I say that my children are doing the same, but they would rather pay their property tax to make sure that the elderly, the handicapped and the veterans get a decent break only if they're low income. We're not talking about people that live in a hundred to a \$200,000 home that have high incomes. They will keep on paying their property tax. We're talking about the low income elderly, the disabled, the handicapped, the war veterans. I'm asking you to advance LB 556 to Select File and at that point we should be through with the appropriations bills and you can determine yourself whether you want to continue giving the elderly a decent break and I will pass out some other things that will give you more information. And certainly since we have just one hour on this bill, I'm not going to take up too much time. Thank you for listening. I urge you to advance LB 556 to the second stage and at that point you can tell me or I will tell you exactly what we're going to do, whether we're going to decrease the increase or whether we'll go for the \$35,000 value to \$45,000 and let me tell you, some of the homes in my district that are 90 to 100 years old have now been re-evaluated to 50 and 60. It doesn't mean that all these elderly people aren't going back on the tax rolls. They're still going to be taxed something and they haven't paid a dime for many years, but now we're putting them back on the tax rolls. I think if we don't help them, we'll be harming our children because they're going to have to come in and help pay the property taxes and they're having a difficult time themselves. I haven't heard a big cry from the people that have a lot of income asking for property tax relief. I hear it from the elderly, the handicapped and those that don't want to give up their home. I urge you to advance LB 556.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Labeledz. (Gavel.) May we have order in the Chamber, please. Senator Schmit has guests in the north balcony who are 37 sixth graders from St. Isadore School in Columbus with their teacher. Thank you for coming down to visit us. We welcome you. Senator Labeledz.