

property tax relief. That's not really the way that we should go, but I would love to see property tax relief without an increase in sales and income tax and that's exactly what is going to happen if we put that \$18 million in today. So it's very difficult for me to defer this for one year, but I will do that hoping that if we do have a session in the middle of this year, that maybe it will be strictly on property tax relief and we can consider it at that time, and if the Governor plans on doing that, I will myself urge him to include property tax relief along with anything that he is going to do on 662. I strongly believe, too, that property tax relief will only come if there is more state aid to local governments and it will come out of the sales and income tax, but right now we don't want the increase. We don't know what the budget is going to be like so I urge you to vote for the one year deferment and perhaps we can take it up sometime during the summer if not January. But two years is too long to wait. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Let's have order in the Chamber, please. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I think what Senator Hoagland is suggesting, the additional year extension, probably makes a lot of common sense. You have rejected the repeal of it which indicates that at some point in time you all would like to do that. So then I think the question you have to ask yourself is, is it really going to be feasible next year or is it really a project that is two years off? Now you have said this year, in light of the economic situation this year you have said we are not going to do it. So I think the question you have to ask yourself is, is the economic situation going to be any better next year that you're going to be able to say, yes, we will do it, because if the economic situation is the same or worse, then recognizing what you did this year, you must logically recognize that you will do the same next year. So that's the question you have to ask yourself. Now all the economic forecasters or most all of them, Senator Warner has indicated almost everybody, at least at this point in time, believes that the situation will be the same or worse. So in all probability where we'll be here is sitting here next year, same time, same station, same situation except, of course, half of us are up for election. And we're already looking a little bad on this situation because tens of thousands of dollars if