

SENATOR DEKAMP: What I am saying is, look beyond simply a problem of next year and look at the whole big picture and I don't know what I am going to do on this bill at this point, but I know just focusing on this at this time is the smallest part of our focus and we have to deal with the whole issue. I will talk about it more later. I only got a little piece of what I wanted to say done.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I recognize that Senator Hall has some pride in the authorship of this bill and I can understand his frustration that the bill is not proposed to be funded after all of this time. I know that there are those who say that a \$75 saving on a home is of no substantial value to the citizens across the state when it applies across the board. I want to point out that in the district that I represent there are many small communities. Many of those homes are very modest although they are well kept up and they are very comfortable. Seventy-five dollars does represent a substantial portion of the tax on those homes. What is even more interesting, of course, is the fact, and I know that many of you have the same situation in your own districts, that many of the people who live in those homes live on very fixed incomes. I have seen their budgets and I can tell you very honestly that there is no room for cutting in many of those budgets. I am a little bit like Senator DeCamp except that I have not traveled as extensively as he has. I think he has a good idea. If you can find someone to pay for the entire Legislature to take a trip, that wouldn't be bad. But the point that I want to make is that there is always a time when we need to review the spending habits of this body and he was right when he said that not a dollar of state property taxes goes to state government. But I would venture a guess that the Appropriations Committee or Revenue Committee, either or both of them, could give us some kind of an estimate of how much mandated expense we have vested upon the local property taxpayer by virtue of required programs. We all are well aware of the requirements that we have mandated for education, for health care, for roads and many other areas, whereby although we do not, in fact, spend state dollars we mandate the spending of money. I think that at this time, I am like Senator DeCamp, I will not make up my mind immediately. I am going to listen to the debate. I recognize that it is an easy way in effect to come up with