Gov. Edwin Edwards is expected to recommend a major overhaul of his constitutional convention proposal later this week, apparently moving to a plan where the Legislature takes over tax restructuring in a convention setting.

The plan is gelling as Edwards prepares to take his convention proposal to a House committee Thursday.

It is in the House where Edwards has met the strongest opposition from lawmakers who think fiscal policy is the Legislature's job.

Edwards confirmed Tuesday that changes are afoot.

"There will be some definite recommendations that are not on the board now — significant proposed changes," Edwards said.

In recent days, Edwards has met with various legislative forces on the convention proposition, including House and Senate leaders and those who want the Legislature to deal with fiscal matters.

Edwards' new turn appears to be an attempt to find some middle ground.

Under the plan now being developed, Edwards can still have his convention, but the costs and time delay of an election in which delegates would be chosen are eliminated.

The 144-member Legislature would serve as delegates and the convention would convene at summer's end and have a proposition ready to go to voters this fall.

Edwards would get his convention where a majority vote would send proposals to voters. The lawmakers would get their say but outside the traditional legislative bounds where a two-thirds vote would be required for proposed constitutional amendments to go to voters.

The convention's work would not have gone to voters until April 1993.

Last week, a group of House members proposed alternatives to Edwards' convention proposal under which lawmakers could deal with a package of tax propositions during the current session or in a special session following it.

The alternative tax proposals made changes in sales, personal and corporate income taxes and included increases in "sin" taxes on such items as cigarettes and wine.

Even some of Edwards' allies have been nervous about the governor's convention plan. They don't like the delay in dealing with mounting fiscal problems and the uncertainty of the outcome.

The Legislature is struggling with a proposed state budget and declining revenues. The 1992-93 proposed budget is balanced with major sums of one-time funds paying for recurring expenditures.

Lawmakers know they will be facing a dismal picture next year with none of those funds available. Under Edwards' convention proposition, no one would know the fate of various tax changes until far too late.