

time is running.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Okay.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It does not hold one individual responsible. Now if, after having read from Black's Dictionary that that is what assessment means, and that's the particular definition she means by this, then it takes away some of the problems that I have because it will never come into play. It would mean that, unless you have more than one person, you cannot have an assessment. There is no way to ascertain an apportion, amounts that are to be paid, and each individual pays his or her share, if there is only one person. I don't think it makes sense. Since we have a meaningless word, or, worse than that, one that makes no sense in this context, it should be stricken, and what my amendment will do is strike a word which is ambiguous, at best, and meaningless, at worst. There is no meaning to this word, and if there were others who were speaking in favor of this amendment, I would ask them to explain what the words of this proposal mean. But they have laid pretty low, been real cool, and not gotten involved in the fray, and I think that's a wise thing to do. When you have a position that cannot be justified, the best thing is to just be quiet about it. But you certainly don't want to sound like a person who is profoundly ignorant of the subject on which he or she is speaking on the wrong side. So those who were quiet...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...are playing the role of a wise person, but those who would vote for this 29CA will not be casting a vote as a wise person, will not be casting a vote as a responsible legislator. Something is wrong with a system when people on the floor of the Legislature can clearly see that a proposal is a fraud, but, nevertheless, feel the necessity to vote for it. Is that democracy in action? In a sense it is because it means whatever these people come down here decide they are going to do, that's what they can do, and the only ones they have to answer to are the ones who put them in office. But the people who sent me down here, even when they disagree with a specific vote that I cast or a position that I take, would never forgive me for violating...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.