

Section 3, subsection a. Inasmuch as we have proceeded to the division of the question, I am going to eliminate all of the lights that I have on at the present time. I would ask in a moment that you, if you want to speak on the subject, Senator Wesely, I had a number of lights on with reference to talking about the motion offered by Senator Withem. Now we are proceeding to discussion on five or six individual.

SENATOR WESELY: But it is, I think it is the same issue. I don't know why you eliminated the sequence that you had.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Yours was the next light on. Proceed. We are talking about the first rule to be suspended.

SENATOR WESELY: Okay, and, so, hmmm. Well, let me just rise in opposition to suspending that rule and each of the following rules that are now divided. I am not sure quite why we are going that route, but the issue is the same in either case. I think Senator Withem and those who have co-sponsored this resolution are all making a good point, and I think to try to raise the issue of property tax relief in a very substantial fashion. But let me also make this point. I think that what is trying to be portrayed here for all of us in this Legislature and all of us in the state is that this is some sort of a litmus test about whether we care or don't care about property tax relief. In fact, in my estimation, the suspension of this rule and any other rules, and Senator Moore I think has tried to point out, isn't really the litmus test. The litmus test is going to come when we have to face a choice of raising state sales or income taxes to pay for property tax relief because that is the only way you are going to have significant ongoing property tax relief in this state, and that is the litmus test, not the question of whether you suspend these rules and bypass the system we have in place, the process that we have followed, for these many years here in this Legislature. I think that is the wrong approach and not the question that is best put to us in this situation, and it is simply because of the fact that this issue is so complex, involves so many different pieces of legislation, so many different approaches that I truly feel we ought to allow the system to work, to allow it to function the way it is intended to function. There are not just one bill, or just a couple of bills. There are dozens of bills out there dealing with the question of tax relief. Now some of those bills deal with property tax relief. Some of those bills deal with income tax relief. They are different approaches to the