

SENATOR PIRSCH: So by pointing out then subclasses which are yet to be determined, your goal is so that a subclass of land in Nuckolls County would be evaluated the same or would be taxed the same as that kind of subclass in Gosper County, let's say.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, I am trying to maintain the uniform and proportionate description.

SENATOR PIRSCH: And by saying "taxes", do you think that we perhaps have overstepped by saying taxes instead of valuations? What would be the...?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Senator, in some ways I sort of like that valuation thing because it sort of refutes the entire rest of the darned amendment. It says, notwithstanding the fact that we say you can define it differently and you can describe the method, nonetheless, we do it upon values. How you get the values, I don't know. I am not that smart. There are a lot of people here who apparently have no qualms about that but the language "taxes be levied uniformly and proportionately" is just a copy of the old language in the Constitution.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Okay, thank you, Senator Schmit. I guess I would have a problem with the taxes being levied uniformly and proportionately. Part of the problem I have with this whole structure of valuation across the state is the fact that it is not being done uniformly and that there should be some way that we can, indeed, set that valuation within the classes and follow through with that. Even though it is mandated today, it is not happening, and I am not sure that whether we put in this amendment or Senator Johnson's, if, indeed, there would be any difference, but I don't think we can require taxes. We must require valuation so I regretfully will have to vote against the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Pirsch. Senator Schmit, please, followed by Senator Chambers, then Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Mr. President and members, I guess that we will never ever stop dragging the ghost of John DeCamp across the legislative floor, and that may happen, it may be good or it may be bad. I just want to remind you that had you taken the DeCamp and Haberman amendment five years ago, we probably wouldn't be standing here agitating over this thing today. I don't like to give any credit to Senator Haberman because he