

SENATOR WARNER: ...the amount was pretty modest in the amount of dollars. But I can think of a lot of people that it's an occupied home, individual family residence, but the ownership may well not be in that individual's name, may be in the name of some business entity that they are associated with in some fashion, which is as much of an individual home as any other home would be. Of course, the issue has been raised about renters, which certainly is a legitimate one to be concerned about, because the odds are that they, obviously, will not benefit from homestead exemption and, presumably, I'm not sure if the landlord benefits from the 10 percent reduction or not. Obviously, if an owner had an apartment house they probably would not. So there would be no benefit...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR WARNER: ...to pass onto renters even if the landlord wanted to. So, for those reasons, I would oppose the amendment and think it would be much better to have the bill take a delayed effect by one year.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Labedz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. President. I rise in support of the...of Senator Lamb's amendment, and I also want to reiterate what Senator Lamb said in regard to the Governor's opposition or support of the \$2,000 cap, because I did talk to the Governor shortly before lunch, because by reading the newspapers I suspected that the Governor was opposing the \$2,000 cap. I found out that the Governor does support the cap, but the fact that she believes that it is unconstitutional, and I told her that I strongly support the cap myself and, hopefully, it will not be unconstitutional because I recall, up until a few years ago when we repealed the general homestead exemption that everybody received, with the exception of business and commercial use, it also included the farmstead. The farmstead received the homestead exemption, plus 10 acres, I believe, but we did not include anything for business and commercial use. Perhaps the Attorney General is going to say that is different because it is strictly a homestead exemption. Hopefully, we will find that it is constitutional and the cap is necessary. I don't know whether or not many of you received this yellow long letter, two-page letter, from the Nebraska Taxpayers Association, and it was signed by Ed Jaksha. Let me just read a