

SENATOR LAMB: Question.

PRESIDENT: Question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. And the question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Debate is ceased. Senator Wesely, to close, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President. Again, I appreciate the indulgence of the body. I don't think we've taken that much time to go through these amendments, but it is an attempt for me to point out that I think this bill is a triumph of good politics over good policy. If we're really concerned about the homeowners and the middle income in this state, there are better ways to serve their need for tax relief. It's not just for urban citizens, this homestead exemption applies to all citizens in the state, all families, all homeowners in this state, and that is urban and rural. This is the better way to go. This is what the Constitution in our state, and the people of this state have voted to allow for. Our people amended the Constitution and it allows us to provide for homestead exemptions because they recognized the value and importance of the home to our society, to our state. It's the institution that we most have to be concerned about on property taxes. Yes, we're concerned about other property owners and other property matters. But it's the home where you must start to provide the relief, you have to ease up on the burden that is there. And that home is valid and this exemption is valid anywhere in the state. And \$400 of relief is a whole lot more attractive than \$130. You won't hardly see the \$130, but they'll sure understand the \$400. And I'd move to return the bill to provide it to those people.

PRESIDENT: The question is, shall the bill be returned for a specific amendment? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please. Record vote has been requested.

CLERK: (Read record vote as found on pages 2140-41 of the Legislative Journal.) 5 ayes, 24 nays, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion fails. Anything further? Senator Wesely asked for it. The Clerk was just asking me who asked for the record vote.