

we're ready to make, for one, I don't think we're ready to just throw out the whole balance that we struck last year. And, for two, I don't think we're willing...we should be sending a message on what we're going to do as far as homestead exemption on January 9th. I just think it's too early. I initially thought maybe we should defeat the committee amendments and then try and bracket the bill. Obviously, some people's hope would be that we would adopt the committee amendments, then advance the bill to Select File and then bracket it. I think, for the safety and concern of the public and the safety and concern of the people in this body, to make sure we're not sending out any mixed signals, I think it would be wise to, you know, to rein in the horse, continue the discussion, have some hearings that Senator Lamb is talking about. Obviously, when we get into these type of issues, we get more than a tad bit concerned about who gets credit for what and I guess I don't want to get caught up in that. But I think it's a little too early to be opening the barn door and letting the whole stampede loose. And I wish we would rein them in and bracket the bill to February 28th.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Wesely, did you wish to speak?

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President and members, I rise in opposition to the bracket motion and in support of the committee amendments and in support of the bill's advancement to Select File. It's obviously the first volley in the property tax...great property tax debate in 1990 which will be followed by the great property tax debate of 1991 and on in the future. Every year we have been down here we have discussed it and every year we have not found that elusive solution to the problem. But I think, clearly, last year's solution was the worst mistake we made in property taxes and tax policy since the last time we passed any tax change in tax policy, which would have been 775 and 773, and some of those bills a couple years before that. That LB 84 which we touted on this floor which the Governor touted across the state as providing property tax relief to people around the State of Nebraska has obviously failed. It did not work. It was a mistake and we threw away over a \$100 million and all we did was provide camouflage for local governments to raise their budgets much higher than they had probably anticipated prior to the passage of that bill. Now, personally, if we would have adopted some of the alternatives that were offered at the time, including the sort of proposal that Senator Chizek is offering at this time, dealing with homestead exemptions, we would have far more seen the tax relief