

property, that piece of real property will reflect in that kind of property tax paid. I'm curious about leases, for example. If someone leases a piece of real property, is it the same as rent? If it's a net, net, net lease, for example, where they have to pay all the taxes, do we have to consider them as well? I just, generally, have concern, at the same time we talk about how rentals will be affected, I think you all know and we all know that we say these things and we have to, because when this goes before a vote of the people, renters will vote like everyone else. But let's not make it appear that, in fact, we have to make some extraordinary move that, in fact, discriminates even again...against even the poor and low income person who decides to own. I know a lot of people that are making 15, 18 thousand a year that own houses in my district, you can own a house. But they will get no benefit, because they are in the same low income category, but, in fact, take it upon themselves to try to own their own home. And, in a sense, we almost discourage with this kind of discussion, so much concern over the renter, we almost discourage the low income person from even being willing to think about owning their own property, which I think is a commendable thing, indeed. So I have mixed emotions about the amendment. I will not support it, even though I understand why everyone is doing it, because I don't think we have and probably can't more clearly define who, in fact, should be eligible and justify it at the same time.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, please, followed by Senator Schimek.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, this is a bill on which I haven't discussed a great amount of the amendments, or great number of the amendments, because I'm not going to support the bill. I'll be frank. I think it's unfair. But when an amendment is offered of this kind, which is aimed at trying to bring about some equity, I have to support the principle that is being articulated and the effort being put forth to bring a modicum of fairness and justice to what we're dealing with here today. Now, when Senator Schimek and Senator Wesely bring us a complex amendment, like this, it would be very easy to say there is too much here to digest, so I'm not going to support it. But we've had very complex amendments whose point we didn't even understand clearly. On this one, it's clear what we're doing and why we're trying to do it. When the Governor stated that the renters were not getting any support out of these bills, it's a point that I'm glad she came around