

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes, Mr. Speaker and members, I listened to Senator Schmit and to Senator Chambers just now talking about the role of shame and the fact that this is probably unfair. I have to tell you as an old county commissioner that, in case you forgot, and even if Denny Byars may have said it and you weren't listening, the county officials are creatures of the Legislature. If they're doing shameful things, point the finger at yourself not at them. They collected a tax that they did not insist be imposed. They collected a tax that you, all of you in the Legislature, said should be collected. You defined what kind of property should be taxed, not the county officials, they simply collected it. They were doing your job as a wholesaler of services at the local level. I think...the only good thing I've heard so far makes very little sense. They have nothing to be ashamed of, they did nothing wrong. They collected a tax that you said they should collect based on what you defined as taxable, and I think this proposal by Senator Johnson, recommendation, should be passed. It's just the opposite to me. It seems shameful to me that we wouldn't recognize our role as it applies at the county level and our responsibility here now to make sure that we don't make the mistake of not correcting it by supporting...by not supporting this proposal. So I stand in support of Senator Johnson's recommendation.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Langford, please.

SENATOR LANGFORD: Mr. President, I call the question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Langford moves the previous question. Do I see five hands? I do. Shall debate now cease? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Shall debate cease? Record, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 4 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate ceases. For purposes of closing, Senator Lowell Johnson.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. President. After yesterday afternoon and this morning I feel somewhat like the anvil that you were pounding up there yesterday. But to get back on track, this is not an amendment or a bill to go back many years to pick