

November 9, 1989

LB 1-3
LR 1

resolve this problem with the present bills, LB 1 and LB 2. I have not studied LR 3...LB 3. We cannot resolve the problem in a regular 60-day session which will be forthcoming in 1990. There will be too many other problems at that time. We need to take the time now slowly, deliberatively, painfully, working with all the groups, principally the legislators. Of course, it's good to listen to those groups who spend the taxpayers' money, who have supported these bills. They have a responsibility to protect their entity but it is the Legislature's responsibility to draft the legislation and we should represent the taxpayers to the best of our ability. We should do that in slow, deliberate and a very painful process...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...and, therefore, I support the McFarland resolution.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, followed by Senator Lamb.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I, too, will support Senator McFarland's resolution. I hope that, through our deliberation and our consideration, that we can lay all politics aside. I was elected by my constituents probably by a larger majority of the party that I am not represented to come down here and be as knowledgeable as I can be and to find out the facts and then try to make the best decision. I feel, by the very narrow call and these bills that were given us, I, too, have a lot of concern with a major change, particularly in LR 1. I would defy any senator on this floor right now to say that they fully understand the implications of that bill. Another thing that bothers me, I think Senator Schimek alluded to it very much. I don't blame the interested parties that had a lot of input in the drafting of these bills. They represent their own special interest. The one tax study group here, I called them last Friday. They named off the individuals that had met earlier that morning, primarily the railroads, the pipeline companies, the realtors, the Farm Bureau, and the school boards, and so on, and I said that is fine, but where was the Legislature? Who represented the Legislature? Who represented the taxpayers and my constituents? I think the answer was, well, that is coming. I am not comfortable. I am not saying that the draft is all right or they are wrong, excepting that for us to come down here and all along I have said, we don't