

November 14, 1989      LB 1, 8

a question for Senator Schmit.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit, would you respond, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, Senator, I will respond.

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Schmit, I don't have a copy of that amendment on my desk. Is that the same as LB 8?

SENATOR SCHMIT: It is a combination, Senator, of LB 8 and LB 9.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, and I understand that LB 8 removes exemption provided to religious, educational, and charitable organizations, and cemetery real property holdings. Is that included in this amendment?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Except that property, Senator, which is exempted by the federal and state Constitution, which is the churches.

SENATOR HEFNER: Which is for churches?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay. What is your definition then for religious organizations?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Whatever has been considered religious in the past. I guess it is a much broader term, Senator, than it was 150 years ago.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, well, how come we say that it exempts some religious organizations? What part of the religious organizations does it exempt?

SENATOR SCHMIT: It exempts that which is exempted by the two Constitutions, Senator. That is the way I told the bill drafter to draft it.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, but there is still some exemptions that would go to religious organizations then?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Churches, per se, would be exempt, yes.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay. How about the religious schools?