

time we got ourselves dug in deeper. I would suggest that today, if we pass LB 1, even with the improved version, and I again commend the Revenue Committee for really making a serious attempt, that we are going to be back in here again with a really serious problem on our hands. I guess at this time I really appreciate the support of Senator Tim Hall. I know it is not an easy thing to support. I know you are going to get some criticism, but let me tell you, you are going to get less than you realize because I can increase my dues, and I can even increase my church support, I hope Father Secord is not listening, in the event that we put some of that property back on the tax rolls if it is necessary, for a 9 percent reduction in the overall real estate proposal. I would like to ask Senator Hall, since I was not able to attend the entire hearing, I would like to ask Senator Hall, who opposed my bills in the committee hearing, Senator Hall? Can you give me that information please?

PRESIDENT: Senator Hall, please.

SENATOR HALL: Senator Schmit, there was only one testifier with regard to the removal of the real estate exemptions and that was an individual who represented the not-for-profit nursing homes.

SENATOR SCHMIT: The not-for-profit nursing homes?

SENATOR HALL: Not-for-profit nursing homes, and I think which there were about 25-odd or so nursing homes in the state that fell under that provision. No one else testified in opposition of the bill.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Senator Hall. Fellow members, I think that tells you something, and I want to say this. I will be the first to concede that this amendment should not be adopted without extensive debate, and if there is something that ought to be further clarified in it, Senator Hefner, I would be most willing to try to do that, but I want to make this point. It has been over three or four months since I proposed this type of a solution in public. You will be amazed, ladies and gentlemen, I received some criticism but, after I sat down and discussed it with a whole host of people, the vast majority of them said, well, maybe you have got a point. At least the Legislature ought to take a look at it. I really have no problem if the not-for-profit nursing homes can come in and convince the Revenue Committee that their exemptions ought to