

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...the basis for legislation. If such a method were permitted, the restriction upon the Legislature contained in the Constitution would be reduced to a shambles with a meaningless effect. Now what the court has said repeatedly, in similar cases, is that the Legislature cannot do what the Legislature is attempting to do now. And when the Legislature runs headlong to do this for a political purpose and the court properly strikes down such legislation, there should be no criticism of the court. What should be said is that you're dealing with an idiot legislature. You repeatedly tell them what they are allowed to do under the Constitution. They repeatedly ignore it for political purposes and whereas the court understands why they do that because they feel their purpose in life is to continue to stay in office, the court should not be blamed for doing its job under the Constitution. I think this is a sham and, therefore, my amendment is valid and may rescue the rest of the bill.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, we missed you a little bit ago. Did you wish to speak?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Senator Chambers has once more put a rope around the neck of every agricultural senator in here because he knows better than any of us that any rural senator who votes for his amendment is going to get a full-page headline, Schmit votes to take, or to put the pivots on the personal tax roll and, of course, most of us are cowards. We don't like to see those kind of headlines. The reason the language is there, Senator, I can't disagree with you, is this. It is there for the same reason that 361 and LR 2 marched side by side. Because a promise was made, you pass 361 and raise your taxes 50 million bucks this year and in a year we're going to go out and we'll pass LR 2 and then, lo and behold, we'll roll your taxes back by 50 million. Now, if, may God forbid, LR 2 doesn't pass, it's not our fault. If, on the other hand, it doesn't pass, it does pass, and the Legislature in its wisdom chooses not to roll the real estate valuations back by that amount, still no one's fault. We can always blame someone else, but the point is this. The language is put in there, as Senator Chambers well knows, to bring along those of us rural senators who say, well, just leave us alone, write us out of it, and we'll be home free. Then if...the court says, wait a minute, pivots are not a rational classification of real property. All of a sudden, well, it