

it says, depreciable real property shall mean any improvement upon or beneath nondepreciable real property which remains in the normal course of events affixed upon or beneath such property for longer than 12 months. Senator Elmer, what is an improvement, for your purposes? What would constitute an improvement?

SENATOR ELMER: Senator Chambers, it would be anything that is a permanent appurtenance, a building, a grain bin, a set of tank battery and the pipes that connect it, a printing press in a newspaper, the assembly lines in a manufacturing concern...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Or anything beneath the ground?

SENATOR ELMER: Anything beneath the ground which would include the minerals, the pipelines, the cables, anything that has real value that can be determined by the assessor with the aid of the Department of Revenue.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What about a vault and a casket?

SENATOR ELMER: I'm not sure...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You pay sales tax on those things now. I tried to exempt them saying the tax man should not follow a person beyond the grave but this Legislature insisted on continuing to tax. So when it is affixed beneath the ground, it now changes from personal property to real property and will that be in the category of pipelines and these other things?

SENATOR ELMER: I would assume that the Department of Revenue could determine a market value for that, that somebody would be willing to buy that...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Elmer...

SENATOR ELMER: ...conceivably it could.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But does market value depend on somebody's willingness to buy or do you create a hypothetical situation where if there were a buyer and a willing seller, this is probably what it might fetch? Because if you have to have a buyer before you have a market value, then each item that does not have an existent buyer would not have any market value.