

the question of whether or not the real estate property taxpayers or the corporate citizens should pay this hole. Don't hide behind the procedural problem.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: I will not ask you to endanger LB 7 by passing a portion of it that is beyond the call. We have three layers of debate, this is the first. This is where we start our deliberations and I want to know what the message is. All I want is King's X on this level to see whether or not this body, in its selection, is going to choose the real estate property taxpayers or the corporate sector to pay the Union Pacific's taxes. I'm not going to make you do that on Select File or Final Reading and go beyond the call. I'm not going to endanger, and with some constitutional argument, that kind of a risk on LB 7. I agree it's important. I agree that can be done. On the other hand, what is being done is to fasten on that argument and not get to the substantive issue. To use the procedural question, when I give you a promise I won't force you into doing that or force the issue if, in fact, we can't expand the call, to avoid the issue of substance and to avoid, and this is what I love, to avoid the issue will be to allow the taxes on real estate to go up without your vote to do so, without seeming as if you've done it, but you will have done it. You can stop that from happening. You can say there is a better tax base, one that we don't use nearly as often, one that by any standard measure is the least used in this base which in this unexpected problem we can call upon to make up the difference.

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR LANDIS: But if you don't do that, then by your inaction, property taxes will go up. Don't kid yourself.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Abboud, you are the first of 12 speakers.

SENATOR ABOUD: Thank you, Mr. President. This is a rather interesting amendment and that is probably why we're getting some discussion about it. I don't think that there is any question that this issue and this amendment is outside the call, and perhaps for that reason it's a hurdle that really no one can overcome. But the issue has really broadened out as to the question of whether...who should have to pay for this