

like to do, we'd like to put everybody back on the tax rolls. Now, there are some of us, I guess, that would like to do nothing. Then probably what Senator Schmit has outlined or told us to do is eventually going to happen and you do it by default. Now, somewhere in between those extremes maybe we could do something else, that is the good thing about Senator Warner's proposal is it is an attempt to get some better clarification, it's a better answer to our questions before we roll over and play dead and do what Senator Schmit encourages us to do. Before we roll over and play dead and put all that property unexempted back on the tax rolls. I think it's responsible we find out what exactly it is we can and can't do. And the court, you know,....I'm not saying the last thing I'm going to do is bash the court. They simply said what you're presently doing is wrong. And we need to find out where in the grey area we can go. Now the worst thing we can do is pass Senator Warner's bill, beat our chests, say we solved the personal property tax problem, because we haven't done it yet, we have not done it yet. We have just posed a question to the court, will this solve it? And I think before I do either of the extreme things that most people have recommended as alternatives, I think the fiscally prudent thing to do, or just that I'm more comfortable with doing is try and get a better clarification on what it is we can or can't do is to deal with the problem. And I think Senator Warner's bill in its pristine form, as it now is, is the best way to do that. I would encourage adoption of Senator Warner's bill, and do thank Senator Withem for encouraging us to discuss it, because it's very important. But once again reiterate let's don't go home and say we solved the problem, because this does not.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hartnett, please.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members of the body, I guess it's been referred to maybe by Senator Withem that I passed around a memorandum. I guess my office and myself have looked at this issue of exemptions and the different court cases over the past, maybe the past 20 years, going back to 1970. There has been about 41 cases dealing with equalization in that particular time. I guess what I see happening is that it...and it started, I guess we talk about Senator Abboud kind of blamed the 4-R Act and so forth, I think Senator Wesely touched on it, that it's really not, maybe not, I think the 4-R Act has kind of brought it to the top of the pile. But I think what we have done in the Legislature, and I think with good reason, and I can