

SENATOR ASHFORD: No, absolutely not, but they would be expedited over other civil cases but not...that's my understanding of the way it works.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: And that is my problem still, but I will vote for reconsideration and then I will probably vote to support LB 7. And I would give any more of my time to Senator Ashford if you would like it, Senator.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Ashford, you have approximately three minutes.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Well, I'm not sure, Senator Morrissey, why your reasoning behind changing your vote so it's hard for me to address it. I guess the...you know, we just can't get around what the Supreme...as I said before, we cannot, no matter how we stretch the language, no matter what we do, we cannot get around the clear intent...and no one has addressed...my problem is the record in this thing and no one has addressed my concern and Senator Hall's concern and that is the Supreme Court says unequivocally that there is one class of personal property, and that if we exempt one class, everybody else is entitled to an exemption. Now if somebody could answer that, I would change my vote too and, seriously, if someone could convince me that I'm...that that's not what the Supreme Court said then, fine, let's vote...if LB 7 will do the trick then let's vote for LB 7. But I'm afraid we're giving a very substantial exemption to a large industry in Nebraska without any...and it's not going to solve the other 243 cases. The other problem we've got is that we've got 75 percent of our personal property exempt, and because 75 percent of our personal property is exempt, no matter what we do with the railroads, any taxpayer is going to have the argument of the Enron case that this is one class of property and 75 percent of it is exempt. So I would love nothing more than to solve this problem today and I think Senator Warner has made a very honest and good attempt to do that, but we still have...are hit right in the face with the language of the Supreme Court. I think LB 1 would have been a...would have worked too if we hadn't put the irrigation equipment in, but we have, obviously, created a myriad of lawsuits with that now too because we're exempting out...we're exempting out irrigation equipment, we're calling it real property and then exempting it out. Even though it's exempt now, we're creating causes of action all over the place. The 243 claims are going to be a