

April 24, 1991

LB 203

are more comfortable with the rules and regs of 203 and the effects of 203. I'd urge you to defeat the amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. The next speaker is Senator Beutler. Senator Beutler waives off. Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I oppose this amendment. I think there is some misconception here concerning the abilities of appraisers to even out valuations across the state. In my experience, licensed appraisers are no more successful in telling you the true value of property than anyone else. I have had appraisals for the same tracts of property vary by as much as 50 percent and those appraisals were, of course, by licensed appraisers and I think they are highly qualified individuals. I think there is also a lack of recognition that currently county assessors are required to be tested by the Department of Revenue and at least meet the standards deemed necessary by that department for the discharge of their duties. I think someone noted that in many counties in any respect the county assessors are largely administrators and are not actively engaged in the valuation of properties on a tract by tract basis. I cannot see that this amendment will achieve anything other than a substantial cost to the counties and a great difficulty in finding persons who are willing and able to be county assessors.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Lamb, did you wish to speak? The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do not see sufficient seconds. I do not see five hands. Oh, now they're coming up all over the place. I see plenty of hands. We will vote on ceasing debate. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Debate has ceased. Senator Will, would you like to close on your amendment?

SENATOR WILL: Yes, Senator Baack, members of the body, I'd like to give some of my time to Senator Hall if he promises not to use it all and then I'll take the rest.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Hall, you have two and a half minutes.