

the amendment to be withdrawn.

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment is withdrawn. We are back to a discussion of the committee amendments as amended. Senator Lynch, did you wish to address the committee amendments?

SENATOR LYNCH: Question.

SPEAKER BAACK: I think we should have a little more debate on those, Senator Lynch. I'll rule that out of order just for a few minutes because there are a number of...there's only about five speakers on, so I'm going to check with them. Senator Pirsch, committee amendments.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, yes, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, just by way of explanation I had thought and said at the beginning of this session that I do not want to change the Nebraska Constitution to take out the uniformity and proportionality and I was of the opinion we should put all personal property back on. But the reality that we have faced and of what can be and should be done has reversed my original intentions. And I look at it kind of this way, that the founders of our state and the writers of our Constitution wrote this document in a far different time. Life and personal property were far less mobile than today. Personal property and people in an agrarian society were tied to the land, so to speak. These days are different. Economic development competition, telecommunications, mobility of persons and both individual and corporate are factors that we have to take into consideration today and that the people and citizens of Nebraska must think about when they consider this constitutional amendment. The courts were very clear. For the last 20 years we have been exempting this part of the pie that meant that real estate taxes are overburdened and also in jeopardy. We need to do something different in a different society that we live in today. So I reluctantly support, well, not reluctantly, I do so with the commitment that our Constitution does have to be changed and, hopefully, this will bring about a new system that will be more fair to our real estate taxpayers and bring about more creative, more fair, more equitable and proportionate taxing for our state citizens.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Pirsch. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Well, I guess since the Speaker wants us to