

Senator Warner got it out of, but anyway it's a good idea and I believe that this more than anything will put those who currently pay the tax and will continue to pay the tax under the system as LR 186 would allow, they will be the folks who will be, I think, a little bit at ease because they're going to understand that not only will you look at the exemptions, when you look at the exemptions you look at the whole system and it forces us to look at exemptions before we look at increasing rates which is when you look at the whole tax system, that's where we run into problems in Nebraska. You can't avoid taking a look at the whole issue of picking the same pocket over and over again. And if you do away with taxes, at least, excuse me, exemptions to the tax code, in this case personal property tax exemptions, at least what you do is you put folks on notice that there is no divine right to an exemption. We're going to reexamine those and we should reexamine them to make sure that things haven't changed...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...over time. Otherwise you do get into the, I think, pattern of dealing with them on a crisis basis and only at those times when you're trying to generate revenue do you look at an exemption because you're forced with the decision of raising rates or reducing exemptions and with a proposal like this in front of the people in the Constitution it does put the Legislature and the taxpayers on notice that we're going to reexamine our system on a regular basis. We don't do it enough now. It's a good proposal. I would urge the adoption of the Warner amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, Madam President, members, I, too would rise in support of the Warner amendment. I have been in discussion with the Governor's Office to discuss this and I know that they're favorable toward the concept. Obviously it, I think, would be attractive to the passage of the amendment, both internally with some of us in the body and also externally with the public to know that if we do move forward in terms of exemptions that there is, at least every 10 years, some check and balance system to review the situation, not to have those go on in perpetuity without any ongoing review. I don't think it hurts anything and I do think it will help and I know Senator Warner is sincere in this effort and so I, too, would rise in