

10 years from now it will have changed and with that in mind, I think it is important to make sure that those protections are there because the Constitution will open that wide up to anybody's interest to come in and just pick up 25 quick votes and get yourself an exemption. I would urge the adoption of the amendment and with that I would relinquish the remainder of my time to Senator Withem.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Lindsay. Members of the body, I would urge your support of this amendment. I know there have been folks out in the Rotunda that have been busily working talking about how this kills the constitutional amendment. I agree with Senator Lindsay, that without adding some protection to the typical, every day taxpayer that doesn't own personal property, doesn't have a lobbyist to hire...to come down and lobby in favor of an exemption, without giving them some sort of protection, and this isn't a great deal of protection, 30 votes is not as easy to get as 25, but it's not impossible, without some sort of protection for that person, I think there are a number of us that are getting ready to draw the line in the sand and say, LR 186 isn't the answer either. LR 186 may not be the answer either. I'm getting more and more disturbed with the manner in which the entire debate on personal property has gone. LR 186 was introduced, had some language in it concerning inventories. Immediately some of the special interests came in and said, oh, can't have that in there. What happens? We immediately take that out to accommodate the special interests. Other things have happened. We originally had a plan, let's put everything back on the tax rolls as a temporary solution. Can't do that, let's take it off. Let's have it have it in as a hammer, the Revenue Committee said. Can't do that, let's take it off. Any time there has been an opportunity to grant the wishes of those that want further exemptions in this debate we've done it. Any time there's been any attempt to slow the progress of exemptions, no, I can't do that, that's a deal breaker. I suspect probably the Lindsay amendment will not be adopted. I think at that time those of us that have been kind of holding our nose, saying LR 186, maybe that will...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR WITHEM: ...some thing we have to do, don't particularly like it, but we have to do it. Maybe it's time for us to begin