

support it without this amendment on it. And it's not intended as a threat, it's just I'm just telling you my position and that is I simply cannot support it without that type of protection. I'm still not a fan of LR 186 with the three-fifths vote but it makes it palatable to the extent that I could vote for it, because at least it provides that much protection, at least it provides that extra step that interests trying to create that exemption would have to...that extra hoop, I guess, that they would have to jump through. I would urge that the amendment be adopted or that the LR be returned to Select File for the specific amendment and that the amendment be adopted.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Lindsay. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, I rise in support of the Lindsay amendment. The issue has been framed, I guess, to a certain extent being that of homeowners as opposed to business or ag interests that tend to receive benefits from exemptions that we carve into our statutes for those entities. I don't know, I would hope that that isn't what it is. Clearly the LR doesn't have the votes to pass unless the Lindsay amendment is adopted. Arguments have been made that, well, if Lindsay's amendment is adopted then you're in no better position because the LR doesn't have the votes to pass at that point in time, and that should not be the case. I can't think of one exemption that we have placed in statute or that we have dealt with on this floor in the short time that I've been here that hasn't received at least 30 votes. Thirty votes is what you're going to need if you have to override a Governor's veto. We've experienced that for the last four hours here this evening. It is not that onerous a threshold to have to meet to either retain or to carve out an additional exemption in our property tax base. I firmly do not support LR 186. I will not support it, but I am going to support the Lindsay amendment because I think what that does is it allows the proposal to have a fair shot at a reconsideration motion. I've talked to the Governor. The Governor asked me to come talk to him today and said, you know, you kind of shifted gears on me, Senator Hall, and that was a fair representation of what he said anyway. And I said, Governor, with all due respect the issue is clearly where it needs to be. It's on Final Reading and I've carried the mail I think rather faithfully, but I don't have to open it and read it as well. And in this case I don't like what I read. I think that if you're going to consider this and do it in a proper fashion you need to adopt the Lindsay amendment and then vote