

SENATOR ASHFORD: I think that's important language. And I guess I would just conclude in saying that I agree with Senator...those who have argued that we do need to address these legal issues on the floor and get some history in there so that we can fully understand what we're doing. Again, I think we need to look at 1063 as the basis for further legislation, or further amendments to see if we can accommodate some of these other economic issues and move on with this and...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR ASHFORD: ...go from there. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Next speaker is Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this particular amendment might be one I would be tempted to look at, except for the fact that it contains a very serious flaw, a very serious flaw. And I hope you will listen just a minute. If you pass this amendment I predict that the result of debate in this Legislature will be that 1063 will pass through almost further...without further debate, because the debate will shift to the constitutional amendment upon which 1063 relies, and there is no way in heaven there's going to be enough votes for that constitutional amendment, if you pass this. Why? Because of the flaw. It says here if a constitutional amendment amending Article VIII of the Constitution is not adopted in 1992, now it can be not adopted because the people reject it at the ballot, or...or it could be not adopted because it's never put on the ballot. There's nothing in this amendment that requires us to put a constitutional amendment on the ballot. And if we fail to do so, 1063 will pass. It cannot go into effect because you don't have the constitutional amendment but that part of it that says taxes will be exempt will go into effect. And basically you've wiped out the whole debate that we're working with here. You've wiped out 1063, and you have made it impossible to adopt a constitutional amendment. So those of you who are looking for a 1063 solution, or who are looking for some kind of compromise should certainly reject this because there's no incentive any longer to adopt the constitutional amendment if you pass this particular amendment. It doesn't say that you have to put it on the ballot. It just says if a constitutional amendment is not adopted. Please pay attention to that particular distinction, because it's extremely