

looks to the taxpayer and how they elect to choose that property on tax schedules. So I think without question, Senator Withem has fairly well summed up the tenets that were behind 1063 and why a cow is a cow and that we don't care whether it is a cow, the question is whether they are using it shelter away from income tax, and if not, then you can always elect not to depreciate that particular livestock and this whole amount of money in one way or another would be short-lived one-year readjustment for county purposes, and, in fact, most of the people will probably find they are better off to not have been depreciating their livestock over the period of time. So I rise in strong opposition to Senator Hefner's amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Conway. Senator Wehrbein, you are next.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. Speaker and members, I support Senator Hefner's amendment, and I can't add an awful lot to what Senator Lamb said, but it seems to me that one of the difficulties I would have explaining is a cow on one side of the fence and a cow on another, much as others have said, one is depreciated and one is not. It just simply seems to me that it is logical to keep all livestock in one classification, and, therefore, I support his amendment simply to perhaps simplify, in many cases, the classification of livestock. Also I think it gives it more fair and equitable treatment, and it just seems to me, for the amount of dollars we are talking, that it is reasonable that it be exempted, and simply not make a distinction between it. I would agree with Senator Conway, there probably will be a tendency to get away from depreciation as time goes along if this would not be amended, and perhaps it could be adjusted to, but if that was to be the case, then we simply ought to take it off now and not bother with moving that down the road, so at least livestock operators that want this option can. As you get into more expensive breeding livestock particularly, I think the depreciation is very logical. Perhaps it is not so much under a commercial operation, but under purebred operations, having the ability to depreciate the high value of livestock is a very worthwhile and I think reasonable thing to do. So I'd encourage support for Senator Hefner's amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Nelson, you are next.

SENATOR NELSON: Yes, just a question for clarification. We