

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment to the amendment fails. The call is raised.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lindsay has the next amendment to the committee amendments.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Lindsay.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. Mr. Clerk, was this amendment printed?

CLERK: Senator, page 1178.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Members this amendment is on page 1178 of the Journal, AM3284. It doesn't, just from reading it's not going to tell you much. Let me just tell you what the amendment does. I mean, if you just read it in the Journal. Dan Lynch says, trust me. And I should tell you, I intend at this point to withdraw the amendment, at this point, and offer it at Select, but I do want to make sure that we get thinking about the issue. Basically what the amendment would do is put into the Constitution a time after which no more exemptions could be allowed, that is to allow what's here now, but not to allow further erosion of the tax base in the future. As the constitutional amendment is written, at least the way I read it, there is nothing that is going to prevent us from coming back next year and exempting everything and throwing away everything we've done already this year. And I guess what it comes to is I've heard it said, as a matter of fact I was talking I think to Senator Cudaback yesterday and he talked about 20 years ago the rural people could have gotten the uniformity clause taken away from personal property. The rural people had that kind of strength 20 years ago. And he mentioned it has come back to haunt the rural people, and that's true. And this language I suggest may come back to haunt rural again in the long term as population shifts more towards the cities. And in the short term there is a fear among urban people that it can be used to exempt farm machinery in the short term. Basically the problem that I see that has to be fixed is that everything we've done to this point has been irrelevant, if the constitutional amendment passes as is, simply because there is nothing that is going to prevent future legislatures, including a legislature that convenes next year, from coming back in, undoing everything and exempting everything and that is something that I fear. As