

the people in my district or is my priority to live in my district for a long term and allow my children the option to live in that district long term? And if that is my ultimate priority, because that's why I want to represent a district because I want to be able to live there, I want my kids to be able to live there, but the priority is to be able to live and survive and thrive in southeast Nebraska than the long term bad effect of changing the...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: ...constitutional amendment to something I can't support. If you can't craft fair tax policy without removing the fairness clause from the Constitution, you're in big trouble. I oppose the advancement of the repeal of the uniformity clause of the Constitution.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Madam Chairman and members, I also rise to oppose the advancement of the bill for many of the reasons given by Senator Morrissey. In addition to those reasons I believe it is important to remember that the reason we are here is because we were charged and challenged by the court for not having treated a major business fairly starting with the railroads, coming on down the pipelines, telephone companies. If the court saw fit to say you must rewrite the statutes and treat these major companies, not exactly weak companies but major companies, substantial companies, companies with billions of dollars worth of revenue, well managed companies, profitable companies, you must treat them equitably, then it seems to me that the court must be wringing their hands today and shedding tears and saying what have we wrought? What have we done? We have made it possible for the Legislature in its wisdom or lack thereof to say, well we'll fix that. We will repeal that clause which the court objected to. We will just say we won't have it anymore. We'll go a different route. There are those who are going to say well, but we've got some safeguards built within the system, within the classes with the basic tenet of the constitutional amendment is that we repeal the uniform and proportionate clause. I've always opposed it. I opposed it because I was in agreement with my friend, Senator Warner, and I understand the reasons why he has accepted this proposal but I cannot accept it myself. But if the court said you've got to treat major businesses equitably because it's not fair, then I ask how can