

amendment ought to pass. I would expect that this amendment should get a resounding number of votes. I would hope that it will. There are those who have argued time after time for a substantial homestead exemption and we are here tonight with a large number of people, based upon the motion to adjourn, who would prefer to vote tonight on this amendment when they are aware that there are some of the supporters of the amendment that are not here. That's the nature of politics. That's the way the ball bounces and that's the way the system works. It is not the way in which you craft good legislation. I think that the amendment is admirably fair because of the manner in which it handles the General Fund exemption. I think that is one which we can support. We don't have to worry about reimbursement and it deals with the problem that has been explained here many times on the floor, the problem of how the individual homeowner can get some consideration. We do it here and we do it in a manner which I think cannot be argued with. I would hope that the body would pass the amendment. I think it's important that this amendment exercises what I believe to be the most fair principle of all and it moves away from property in a significant manner as a support for government. If you do not support this amendment then you must not go back to your constituents and tell them that you abhor high property taxes because this gives something to everyone. It gives the rurals the opportunity to avoid excessive personal property taxation and it gives everyone the opportunity to reduce property taxes through the homestead exemption. There are those who do not understand, of course, the substantial contribution made by rurals, by the...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...by the money which is raised, by the tax on repairs. That is a substantial amount of money. There are some others who would argue with the collection fee provisions of 829 and I understand that. I know that there were some good arguments against it at the time, but I think, under these conditions, I think it probably would be fair. I would hope that the body would adopt this amendment and that it would become the major if not the entire part of LB 1063. I support the amendment. Thank you very much.

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

SENATOR MOORE: Madam President, members, as I mentioned before