

It's getting late. Would the senators please check in. The house is under call. Senator Robinson, Senator Warner, would you please check in. We're still missing Senator Robinson, Senator Schmit, do you want to proceed? Okay. Proceed with roll call vote on the Schmit amendment to LB 1063.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken. See page 1252 of the Legislative Journal.) 7 ayes, 16 nays, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOULDER: The amendment fails. I will bring the next amendment, Mr. Schmit.

CLERK: Madam President, the next amendment I have is by Senator Schmit. Senator, I have your AM3309. (Schmit amendment AM3309 appears on page 1253 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR SCHMIT: Madam President and members, AM3309 is an amendment similar to the amendment which Senator Hefner offered several days ago. And this amendment lists livestock as inventory. For the same reasons I gave when I explained the amendment classifying farm equipment as inventory, I suggest that we can salvage something from the wreckage of 1063 if we declare livestock to be inventory. There are those of you who, of course, are unhappy that I pursue these amendments, and I am unhappy that I need to do it. But the reason I do it is because I have a conviction that this state has reversed a path and a pattern that was desirable. We have, for many years, boasted to our constituents that we believe that revenue to support government should come from three sources, relatively equal, sales taxes, income taxes, and property. Well, the facts are that today income taxes and sales taxes do not make up the one-third, one-third, one-third that we talk about. During the Boosalis-Orr campaign Mrs. Boosalis got herself in a little bit of trouble because she felt...she expressed her support for that sort of a tax philosophy. The developments that we have had here recently are a dramatic shift in the wrong direction. We are moving away, with the help of rural legislators, from the income tax and sales tax to a greater reliance upon property taxes for the support of government. When 259 kicks in many of you will enjoy what I've been going through for the last 35 years, that is the privilege of paying rural real estate taxes to an urban district, and the privilege of having 1 rural person on a school board out of 7, and the privilege of paying half of the taxes in a school district where you have 10 percent of the students. That's a privilege, ladies and gentlemen.