

March 12, 1992

LB 1063, 1120
LR 219

Johnson's sales tax amendment, as well as the cloture rule at the improper time, as well as the motion to suspend the rules yesterday when there were no other amendments filed, I wish it wouldn't have had to be that way but I understand why it probably did and debate simply had to move along and I understand that, even though I respectfully disagree it had to be that way. I rise to suspend the motion...to oppose the motion to suspend the rules. I passed out an amendment I filed, basically a rewrite of an amendment I filed yesterday which I simply believe would allow this body to solve this problem with 40 votes where all of us could walk out of here with our heads high and give the people the true choice then to vote on because the choice is a three-pronged choice. You can do nothing, nothing at all, and personal property goes back on the tax rolls, to some degree, we don't know how far yet, I certainly think it's much farther than MAPCO. I think it's certainly household goods and charitable goods as well, that would happen, as well as the 775 amendments. It appears the body does not want to consider that alternative and I simply have to live with that. The frustration with LR 219 and the whole process is it simply does not have to be this way as far as political numbers, obviously, it's got to the point where that's the only choice we have here today. There may be more along the way, but it's very frustrating when, obviously, the administration when LB 1120 stops from advancing, it says it's a great victory for the little guy, and maybe the ode ought to be, here's old Ben, I beat LB 1120 to help the little guy, and here's LB 1063 and LR 219 for the sole purpose to help the big guy, and LB 775 and the exemptions that are protected under this constitutional amendment, I supported LB 775, I do not think we should change the Constitution to allow those sort of things to happen. But, nevertheless, we are at this point. I wish the body would oppose the rule suspension. I wish we could talk once again about giving the voters the true alternative. I think it appears that we're posing a, like I said, a shotgun wedding, I think we're giving people no choice but to say you vote for the 3-R plan and you let MAPCO and whatever else go back on the tax rolls. That is not the only choice this Legislature has. That is not the only choice the voters and the citizens of the state have. And I urge the body to oppose the rule suspension so we can give them a real choice.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator Haberman.
Senator Schellpeper.

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