

has been fair debate on both sides with regard to the issue. We have had special sessions on this issue. We have had numerous bills introduced and hearings on this issue. Everyone has had a fair opportunity to speak their piece. The vote has come down and it has been one that says the issue goes before the electorate at the November ballot. We all know what happens at the difference between a primary and a general election. The people will attend a general election. There is election for a president on that ballot. There is no single statewide office on the primary ballot, period. We're on the ballot, some of us that are up for election. There are some local offices that are up, but there is no statewide ballot issue in May. The farmers are in the fields. Some folks are already on vacation doing other things. And maybe they should pay attention to this issue. Maybe they should work their schedule around the ballot. I wish they all would. We know that doesn't happen. When will they go to the polls? They will go to the polls in November and they will vote on this issue. And we'll get the best barometer that we have had to date as to where we go in terms of personal property and its taxation or its exemption for Nebraska. I believe that no tax system is worth gutting your Constitution of its protections and that's what we do in LR 219CA. And I think everyone has to understand that. And there may be considerable repercussions from this vote that last for years in this body. I understand that. I think it's a small price to pay to uphold the Constitution and let people vote on it in November. What we are doing in this constitutional amendment is carving out exemptions, the same thing that has led us here to this point of having the need for a constitutional amendment. And I think that's bad tax policy. Now others agree differently and the issue is before the voters in November. That's where it's at right now. I don't think that is a bad decision on the part of this body. There will be those who will wring their hand and argue that it is, you know, terrible to leave the state in disarray. Ladies and gentlemen, you know that even with the ballot issue before us the state is no more stable in terms of personal property. If this ballot issue were to be on the May ballot, it is no less in a state of flux than it would be with the way it currently sits on the November ballot. And that's where it ought to be so the most Nebraskans have the opportunity to vote on this issue. What are we afraid of?

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: What are we afraid of to let the people when we