

consideration of LR 444 today.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I appreciate very much Speaker Baack's giving us this opportunity to discuss this issue if only for a very brief time. And I did agree that I would withdraw the motion if others wish to speak to it for a few minutes and I would hope they would do so. But this resolution states very simply that the Legislature shall exempt all tangible personal property from taxation except for motor vehicles that are not inventory. And a vote for that resolution would exempt all personal property. A vote against it would remain that it would be retained. The reason I drafted the resolution that way was that if we would have put this on the general election ballot and had the Governor's position and the 3-R Committee's position prevailed, then in the general election the body could have...or the people could have voted for this amendment and have repealed all taxes on personal property. If they had voted for it, they would have in effect solidified the position we took with CA 1. If on the other hand CA 1 fails and "all" personal property goes back on the tax rolls; in the general election the people could have voted for this resolution and exempted all personal property from taxation. And if they voted against the resolution, would have retained all personal property on a taxable basis. The point I was trying to make is that that would have been a really up and down kind of vote, a for or against kind of vote. And all of us as elected persons have learned over the years that we can live with a clear-cut decision from the people. And so I would thank you very much again for letting me introduce this resolution. And I would at this time just take one moment, Madam Speaker, if anyone else wishes to speak to the resolution that is fine; if not, I ask that the motion be withdrawn.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Does anyone wish to speak to this? Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Senator Schmit, for bringing up something that all of us are very, very concerned about. This afternoon right after lunch I had a young farmer from Moorefield, Nebraska, stop in. He started to farm last year. All his neighbors are older farmers. He bought the existing equipment on the place, the buildings and part of the land and is renting the rest. Under the system we are presenting to the