

I'd like to ask Senator Hall a question, first.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Hall, would you respond.

SENATOR HALL: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Hall, and then I'll tell you, as I ask you the question, what the amendment would be, would you look at page 3 of the committee amendment.

SENATOR HALL: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And the first line 11, on page 3, we're talking about preferences as far as taxation. Now, the amendment that I want to add would be on line 11, after the word "land exclusively and", because this language says that for property tax purposes it should be the value which the land has for agricultural or horticultural use, without regard to any value which the land might have for other purposes. And if you do not require it to be exclusively used for those purposes, you conceivably could have a very large commercial establishment which is surrounded by horticultural or agricultural activity which is not significant. You might have sidewalks or walkways going through this commercial establishment and still have some agricultural, or horticultural activity beside those walkways, and it would qualify, under this bill, to say that that land would be taxed in a preferential way as agricultural and horticultural land without regard to the other value for these commercial purposes. Do you disagree with what I've said?

SENATOR HALL: Senator Chambers, not necessarily. But I guess my...I would think that if the primary purpose of the land were for a commercial enterprise, then it would be assessed as commercial property. Now were it primarily agricultural, I would think that it would be assessed as agricultural and valued in that form. Your amendment, as I understand it, would read, Legislature may provide the value of land exclusively and actively devoted to agriculture. Right?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR HALL: So you would add "exclusively and".

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right.