

out there in terms of what we decide to do. We can decide and we can send things to the voters, whether it be through the Beutler amendment as it would fashion the committee amendments or the committee amendments, as they stand, or through any other amendments that come on. But you can't lose sight of that third argument that is still out there, that this court...and which I tend to agree with Senator Kristensen, I don't agree with the way they have decided these cases, the outcome, yes, but not the path that they took. The fact of the matter remains is that the equal protection clause of the U.S. Constitution has been laid out there by this Supreme Court and they will continue...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...to use that should the proper question be asked and brought to them in the form of a suit. I don't think that is going to go away. I really don't. So, I mean, all you can do here is answer the question of, in my opinion, do you put it all on or do you take it all off. And we've not gotten there. And you know why we haven't gotten there? It's not our fault, frankly. We've had those issues in front of us but you can't either put it all on or take it all off without having the rest of the tax system in front of you to deal with it because there is inequities when you do either one of those options and we haven't been given the tools to deal with it as a whole problem. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is the root of the problem with this special session.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Schmit, you're next.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I think Senator Hall has again pointed out what the real decision is. Do we put everything on personal property or do we exempt all personal property? I thought we had made a decision in regard to personal property just as we did with household goods and just as we did with intangibles. For a variety of reasons, we've been told over the years that it is not good business to tax intangibles, \$114 billion worth of property owned principally by people who have money that, for a variety of reasons, most of them I agree with, we said we should not tax intangibles, so we don't. We have said we're not going to tax household goods, costs more to collect it than it does to...than we get out of it. And a lot of people bought that, including myself. I pointed out yesterday, the household goods for one individual