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like this. Equal protection clause, you heard the discussion earlier that said to you our state Supreme Court...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...has...can interpret the federal equal protection clause to strike down the exemptions that we put in place. Now we're going to put those exemptions in place and you and I know it. We're either going to do it now through this constitutional amendment or we're going to do it next year statutorily and in either event the court is going to look at it and possibly strike it down under the equal protection clause. That's the risk we cannot avoid unless we put everything on. So my question to you is, is that court going to have the arrogance near the tyranny to strike down an exemption that the people have just voted on and put into the Constitution? They might but, by golly, I suggest to you that that would be very hard for them to do. Whereas, if you don't...if the people don't do it and we turn around and do it by statute next year, they're just going to say, oh, that's that foolish Legislature again,...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...that's that foolish Legislature. You're better off having the people vote on it and reinforce the opinion of the Legislature with regard to 50 percent by value of the exemption that we're talking about, 50...this is no small deal, this is...this is protecting by a vote of the people by value half of the exemption that is the subject of all our discussions.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Think about it.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Ashford, you're next.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, I have listened to the debate carefully and I tend to ride this debate out today and the rest of the week and, hopefully, we can arrive at a solution. You know, I very rarely disagree with Senator Landis but I believe so strongly that he's wrong here. For us to say that we should not sit here and work hard to put something on the ballot that the voters can see and understand,