

the light. Unfortunately, Senator Beutler has no constituency in rural Nebraska and so, therefore, he sees no urgency, no urgency whatsoever, to exempt from taxation the tools of the trade of the farmer, and I think it is wrong. I think we have reached a low point in this area. We have said we will exempt those who can make their case loud enough and clear enough. We will exempt those who can punish us if we do not go along with them, but we will not exempt those who have no strong voice. We know that there are 50 or 60 thousand farmers in all of Nebraska.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: You divide those among the 49 legislative districts, they have no real voice. The only voice they have are those of us here who ask for equity. Senator Lynch has pleaded for equity for homeowner time after time after time. I am one of those who oppose the adoption of amendment one because I said it wasn't fair to the homeowner in my small town. Senator Hall has properly pointed out that the shift from the personal property, away from personal property has impacted the small homeowner in my area, and I am worried about that. But I think it is either fair to take it all off or leave it all on, but I do not want to go halfway, and I do not think the court is going to let us go halfway. There is one more serious problem, ladies and gentlemen. If LR 1 goes to the voters and they reject it, that will be looked upon as a mandate, ladies and gentlemen, to reimpose all personal property taxes by this Legislature, and so the businessmen...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...and women who say put us in the Constitution may very well be playing with a double-edged sword. I would ask you...I would support this amendment but that is about as far as I am going to go at this time.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Senator Hall, did you wish a point of order?

SENATOR HALL: Mr. Speaker, I would like to have the amendment divided. I believe it is clearly divisible, separating out the two provisions that deal with "rational", one on page 5, and one on page 8, and then again in line 17 of page 9 as it relates to the language that would be on the ballot, from the laundry list