

issue, which is what we have in LR 1 now, as amended. Certainly it does deal with some issues that need to be dealt with in the Constitution, but it does not deal substantively with the issues raised, in my view, in the MAPCO case. Can I get another gavel, Mr. Speaker, please.

SPEAKER BAACK: (Gavel.)

SENATOR ASHFORD: There's a third introductory comment that I would like to make, and that is sort of the position that I believe the Governor's office has taken, at least in the last few hours, which is going to be something to the effect that those of us who are opposed to LR 1 as it now stands are somehow taking away from the people the right to vote on the personal property tax issue. And, I guess, my view on that would be that we are, in effect, by passing LR 1, doing exactly that, that we are taking away the right of the people to vote on substantive law, substantive proposals. And, again, I would say that it seems to me that as a Legislature, as individual representatives we are given access to information that our constituents are not, that it is our job to sift through that and to come up with a solution, and to present that solution to the people of the State of Nebraska in a succinct way. The amendment that came up this morning, the inventory tax amendment, in my view, is certainly not an amendment that was of particular benefit to the urban areas. Granted, the farm equipment would go back on the rolls. But by exempting inventory you are not, farm and business inventory, you are certainly not, I would not say, overwhelmingly benefiting urban areas over rural areas. And I guess I would suggest that figures would point that out. But it was an effort, I think, on...certainly on Senator Beutler's part to do the substantive kind of changes that I think we are expected to make here. I know there are some suggestions that we ought to adjourn sine die, today even. And I guess I would feel like we might as well all resign as State Senators, if we do that, because it...and that's really what we're doing. We're just saying it's too complicated, it's too complex, there are too many other things to do. And, quite frankly, if that's the decision, we might as well just all resign and get new people in here and let them deal with the problem, because we, obviously, can't do that. My amendment, now getting to the amendment, is fairly...obviously, very, very straightforward. It's modeled after the Kansas constitutional provision that deals with tangible personal property and makes the initial policy decision that all personal property should be taxed in light of the MAPCO