

says yes or no, for or against. Is that fair to turn out to the public when we cannot agree, reasonable people who were sent down here to represent those folks cannot agree on it? I don't think it is. And I think that is absolutely the worst excuse for voting for LR 1, or any form of it, or another constitutional amendment without having a majority of people vote for it, and without having full and fair debate on other options that are out there that we don't have control over...under in this special session.

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

SENATOR ROGERS: Call the question.

SPEAKER BAACK: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do not see five hands. I do now. Okay. We will now vote on ceasing debate. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on ceasing debate. Have you all voted? We're voting on ceasing debate. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Debate has ceased. Senator Ashford, would you like to close on your amendment.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In closing, I would refer to the MAPCO case and just read some of the propositions of law that the Supreme Court gave us. Equalization is the process of insuring that all taxable property is placed on the assessment roles at a uniform percentage of an actual value. The purpose of equalization of assessments is to bring the assessment of different parts of a taxing district to the same relative standard so that no one of any parts may be compelled to pay a disproportionate part of the tax. And the court went on to talk about the importance of the constitutional requirement of uniformity in proportionality. I think the court took a look at what we had done in our Legislature since the early seventies and said that it simply was unacceptable, for various reasons, the special legislation clause, the uniformity clause, various other provisions and precedents of our Supreme Court, and gave to the Legislature the responsibility to do something about our personal property tax system. And that's why we are here, to do something about our personal property tax