

system. And when we try to decide what is fair and equitable and right or wrong, one of the places we look is to other states and every other state in the United States that bases a great deal of its...certainly a political subdivision taxing authority on real property tax and personal property tax, and we can look to other states and see what they have done. And Kansas is not the only state that has adopted a system of...a rational system of value, putting all personal property on the tax rolls and valuing it at a percentage of its actual value. I know or I can sense that there is not sufficient support, obviously, here at this point to pass this amendment, and I thought that I might withdraw it. But I don't think I will. I think it's an important proposal, because it is something that's been done in other states, not, obviously, because I thought of it, but it's something that has been done in other states, has been accepted by the voters in other states. The idea that, as I think more about this, the idea of creating a floor of a certain percentage, and a maximum, and then allowing the Legislature some authority within that floor and that maximum to decide what the actual value should be tax...of personal property should be for tax purposes, I think has some merit. And on Select File maybe that's something that we can look at doing. I think there is certainly a certain logic to going through and looking at the different items of tangible personal property, assigning an actual...assigning a value to those, or percentage of value for the purposes of taxation. But the most important part about my amendment, I think, is that it gives to the voters, when they vote on this, an opportunity to be voting for something, something concrete. And I certainly would much rather...I'd rather do nothing, at least the voters know that all personal property tax is going to go back on the rolls at 100 percent of value, if nothing happens, than to have the voters vote for LR 1 as it now stands, which is voting for nothing, really. I mean, it's basically giving...saying we're giving to the Legislature total authority without providing any guideline...

SENATOR WARNER PRESIDING

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SENATOR ASHFORD: ...at all to the Legislature on how personal property is to be...is to be taxed. The people of our state, I think, want fairness, equity, and uniformity in their tax system. The taxpayer who has business inventory wants to be taxed, if he or she is going to be taxed, at the same rate and