

that's exactly what you're doing with this thing. You're saying, well, you know, we don't like this and don't like that, but just in case, and, ladies and gentlemen, I guess I would have to say several other things, even in my legislative district the personal property taxpayers are going to be a very small minority. They're going to be a small minority. It probably isn't very risky. It's kind of interesting. I used to like to enjoy, after 1976, reading all the political ads of men and women who ran for the Congress and the Senate and for the Legislature and put on their political ads, I passed the personal property tax exemption during my career. You know, that thing went along and went along and everyone took credit for it until all of a sudden, and now people are saying, oh, heck, that was Schmit that passed that 518 back in 1976. I had nothing to do with it. The devil made me vote for it but I really didn't want to. The point is this, right now we know, on this floor, that personal property taxpayers in general, in total, are in the minority. Now, if you exempt certain groups, which we have already pretty well identified, and again I don't object to that, I think they ought to be exempted, then you further narrow it down. You narrow it down in two ways. You narrow it down numerically but you also narrow it down by influence and the ones you have left don't have enough influence to amount to anything with this Legislature. It's a few thousand people per legislative district at the most. Then it becomes a matter of equity. Why is it equitable to tax that small group of people? At what point...at what point are we going to say, wait a minute, are we being somewhat less than honest? We removed the equal and proportionate clause in relation to the taxation of personal property so that we can...

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...so we can gouge a small percentage of the taxpayers. But when I offer you a similar...an exact proposal on real property you don't...you avoid it. Now, here comes the kicker. Agricultural land is already exempted from equal and proportionate. We built that in with Amendment 1, over my objection. And the agricultural sector will come to rue the day on that again sometime. Ladies and gentlemen, I want to tell you this, I'm going to offer LB 5 as an amendment to LB 6, and LB 5 is the bill which would reinstate the personal property tax exemptions of LB 829 from January 1st of '92 through June 30th of '92. That would give us a full legislative session to address that issue and do it in a very responsible and uniform