

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Moore. I will now recognize the senators in the following order, Senator Hall, Schmit, and Morrissey. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President and members. The amendments were those that we talked about yesterday on LB 6. They failed to be adopted I think because of, frankly, just some misunderstanding. There was much activity on the floor. There were a number of individuals who happened to be off the floor, and I saw no purpose in trying to reconsider it at that time because we had a contingency of about 39 members. There were 17 votes in favor, a number of votes opposed, but then there were also a number of people who did not vote, and then, again, 10 that were absent. Whether you agree or disagree with the intent or purpose of LB 6, which is just this, it implements the MAPCO decision. It puts personal property tax back on the rolls. It, in itself, does not do that. In essence, the court has done that by ruling our personal property tax exemptions unconstitutional. What we do through LB 6 is allow the county assessors the ability to do that in a very orderly fashion, or at least as orderly a fashion as we could put together. It is an extremely difficult position we put the assessors in even with the amendments that would become the bill in LB 6 that I am asking you to adopt. They will have a very difficult time. What they will have, though, is the ability to begin about July 21st to do that. They won't have to wait to find out what the outcome of a special election would be in September in order to know whether or not they need to do that. They can proceed now and they can have two months lead time to begin that process, which, very frankly, they need. To argue that we don't need to do this is one way to argue, I guess, but to argue that its poor policy to give them that opportunity, I don't think is a very valid argument. I can understand the one side saying, I don't want to do this at all. I can't understand anybody saying that this would be irresponsible to give them the opportunity to begin that process. There is a whole other line of argument that deals with we need to find out what values out there anywhere, which would be where I would come from, but that is not what this is about. This is about giving as much rational, reason, cohesion, and uniform application of going about the process of putting the personal property back on the tax rolls, as the court has ordered to be done. In essence, they have said your personal property tax exemptions are unconstitutional. What the amendments do is they fuse the committee bill that was