

the test will come and that's who ought to pay for the test, the people who benefitted. They will test the contract in court, I suspect. We were told that every contract that was signed under 775...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR WARNER: ...carried a provision that the property was to be exempt for the period of time of the contract, for the seven years, as I recall, whatever the period is. That's who ought to make the test. And the test can be done but I think it's a mistake to exempt that kind of property when the basic constitutional authority to do it in the first place has been apparently thrown out by the court.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Warner Senator Chambers, followed by Senators Hefner, Kristensen, Bernard-Stevens, Hall and Abboud. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, to my great surprise, Senator Warner said much of what I had intended to say. Very seldom on these kind of matters do we wind up on the same side in this fashion. But there is a difference between his position and mine and that of others. They don't want to rehash 775. I don't want to rehash it. I want to retrash it. I had trashed it when it before us and I like...I would like to do it again but I'm not going to do it to the same extent that I did at that point. I believe 775 was adopted because Mike Harper had enough power to bludgeon this Legislature into submission. Mike Harper is like the ghost of Christmas past and Scrooge because he is still out there hovering, intimidating some people into offering this amendment. Now that's my opinion. Were we talking about ordinary garden variety citizens who had an exemption with...and the exemption related to the type of property which is encompassed in the Supreme Court's decision that said could not be exempted we would not even be discussing whether or not we ought to retain that exemption because the garden variety citizen is mowed down just like grass. This is a set of circumstances which will give us the opportunity to see if we mean what some of the senators have said, that we want guidance from the court. The court has given guidance. Others who have said tax policy should be set by the Legislature and not by the courts, the court has given guidance now it's up to us to follow the guidance and do that which prudent people who can read and understand English should