

government just don't happen in this manner. But I do want to emphasize how important the Governor is in this whole process, if fairness and equity is what we're looking for out of this whole process. And I guess by saying that I do announce that I don't think that the status quo, as it existed before these recent court cases, was fair and equitable. I think something like 25 percent fewer deductions...exemptions in the aggregate would be more like a...would be more like a good result in the outcome of this particular episode. But I want to emphasize just one last time the importance of the Governor in the process, because I think without the intervention of the Governor in the process that it will be business as usual, and that the constitutional amendment will become simply a road map to the status quo. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: You've heard Senator Beutler's closing on his amendment to the amendment. We will now vote on that amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 6 ayes, 18 nays on the amendment to the amendment, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment to the amendment fails. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, back to consideration of Senator Lindsay, Bernard-Stevens, Kristensen, Moore, Hartnett, Baack amendment, AM55S.

SPEAKER BAACK: Okay, we're back to consideration of the amendment. I will now go through the speaking list. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. A lot has been said on the floor already. I'm not sure that I can add to the discussion, except that I have to tell you that my constituents, who are calling me and writing me, are very concerned about what we're doing here this week. And they are telling me that they really don't want the constitutional amendment, at least the ones I'm hearing from. I realize that you don't always hear from both sides of the story. They're also telling me that they want everything back on the tax rolls. They are telling me, some of them, that they...if the taxes keep going up, they really can't afford to stay in their homes. But