

vote, to keep those exempt, and with the 30 votes to ever get rid of exemptions, you lock those in, with the other concerns I have expressed previously about just general tax philosophy, I don't support this amendment. I also want to make it clear that there are ways in which small businesses, small farmers can be assisted through this process. We can put, in fact, various...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...proportional levels of taxation, and we can look at credits, refundable credit, credits that could provide for our small businesses and small farmers assistance that would relieve them of this burden and still retain overall some level of taxation in these areas that we now have no ability to provide for any sort of tax base. And there are ways. We have options. We have not talked about the vary many options that we have that we simply refuse to spend time on. And so for all these reasons, again, Senator Hall's concern about the broad look at the tax system and the tax base and considering all our options, we are not doing that, and as a result, I will rise and continue to oppose LR 1.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you, Madam Chair and members. I thought I might just voice my concerns about LR 1 at this point again. One of them is that I really am not, you know, I have been down here for a week and a half with the rest of you and I have heard, I think, almost all of the experts that have been in meetings here, there, wherever, and it seems out of those meetings we don't have a unanimity of opinion among people that really are experts in the tax field. So that coupled with the fact that now we do have a 30 vote amendment on the resolution means that I have such severe reservations about this and about the fact that whether or not we really should do anything now because this is rather hurried legislation; that I am not convinced that we really need to do anything until next session; that we could come in here in January, consider this matter in depth. LB 829 is still good law. We'd come in here in January and then we could, if it seems prudent, we could put the constitutional amendment on the ballot in November or in May, if you'd like, and do it in a much more unhurried manner. As I mentioned earlier today, this Legislature has a tendency to make mistakes, even under the best situations. I am not convinced that people have...knowledgeable people have had adequate time