

Senators Vote to Shield LB 775 Exemptions. Granted, we did vote, or I did and some of the rest of you, to shield those exemptions and not to address them along with the personal property tax. They're a different type of exemption, so to speak. All of this is very, very complicated. But I will tell you, to the people back home, if you're going to follow those headlines and it's the headlines that killed it for me, really, is if you're going to shield LB 775 exemptions, you start talking about intangibles, you start talking about the homestead exemption, if you're going to put my farm equipment back on and my car lot back on again, don't you dare shield 775 exemptions. I somewhat got, not necessarily a threat, I visited with my Chamber of Commerce people last evening. Take off the personal property tax exemptions. Of course, a lot of those are supporters of LB 775 but the people up and down the street is don't you dare give those exemptions and turn around and put more tax back on my shoulders. So, with that, I'm sorry to say I may...I voted for it the first time the other day but I will vote to return it to Select File. I cannot support it with that on.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Nelson. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President and members of the Legislature, there's really not much to add. I'm hesitant to vote to do this knowing full well that it extends the session, although that, in itself, is as it is. But those who have made the comments that the adoption of that amendment created a poor public perception of what we're doing are absolutely correct. There is no way around it. It was obvious when it was done. It was a tactical error that I would be suspicious if there was any chance to put a constitutional amendment on the ballot in this body. It may have helped there but it would guarantee its defeat. There's just no question about it and I don't know if anything is going to happen today but if anything does and there are 40 votes and the intent is to have those 40 votes place a successful amendment on the Constitution to handle the personal property tax issue, and I've got some more handouts I want to use a little later, no amendments, then this has to come off. There's just...there is no way around it. The only argument we have is the one that is stated, that the court did not deal with this issue and the reason they didn't, it wasn't before them, and that's not an argument that is valid with most people. It just simply is not going to be a valid argument. I heard a speaker some time ago make a comment that it is what people believe in