

from the other, we have a common goal. I intend to vote for this motion to strip this amendment from the bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Chambers. I'll now recognize Senator Hall, followed by Senator Schmit, Chambers, Wesely, Moore, Will, Warner, Schimek, Labedz, et cetera. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President and members. I rise in support of the motion to return to the bill to Select File for purposes of the amendment. I do that because I think that when the amendment gets to the people that what will happen is with this amendment on, 30 votes, there will be those who hold out false hope to them that that is the salvation by which they can guarantee that they will be protected. And, in fact, that is no salvation at all, because what you do with LR 1 is this, you...Well, first of all, we were brought here to put in place a constitutional amendment that was going to protect our real estate base. MAPCO came down and said, you don't have a problem with your real estate base. We could have gone home. The Governor could have said, let's go home, I was wrong, we don't need to address this, let's go home. What happened is we continued to pursue it based on the argument that everything will be up in the air, everything will be up in the air, and personal property will have to go back on. I guess, you know, it's terrible to think that we might treat everything equal. But that's in fact what the uniformity clause is all about. So what are we here doing? We're here today putting LR 1 in front of the people, and we're going to strike the uniformity clause, which was drafted by the folks who met to write the constitutional amendments for it, to protect people, to make sure that not a majority, not a majority, and that's why, you know, if you think back, and I've been criticized as being all kinds of things, but as a minority ruling over a majority here in the Legislature. But think about the process. Think about why you have 40 votes, a 40 vote requirement. It's not to protect the majority. It is to protect the minority. And the minority does not have to be a small number of people, by definition it does not, it can be those who do not have the ability to speak for themselves. And in this case that's exactly what it was in the form of the uniformity clause. It's put there so that those people who don't have the ability to come down here, who do not have the ear of the members of the Legislature in every case would be protected in tax policy, at least as it related to property taxes, tangible property. And