

be several members of this body that are in favor of taxing inventories, I believe that they are in a clear majority, and that if the LR is successful, and we come back next January, that we would, in fact, exempt, we would in fact exempt inventories from the personal property tax structure. I see no reason not to be clear about that, as we submit this issue to the voters. In addition, I think when we come back in January, that we would undoubtedly put in an exemption for animals. So the same rationale extends as I'm expressing for inventories. I want to be clear about what I'm thinking about in terms of inventories and animals, because these are simple words, but they can have broad meanings. Inventories, as I have drafted this amendment, are intended to cover both production inventories, and resale inventories. Now you may not think initially that there are all of these different kinds of inventories. And there may be more kinds of inventories than just production inventories and resale inventories. But the word is used deliberately to cover inventories in a very, very broad sense. Whatever is inventory, by a definition presented by the Legislature, is exempt, or would be exempt as a constitutional matter. Now, animals as an exemption. Partially, that word is added because within inventories you may not be able to include certain kinds of breeding stock as inventory. Although I would submit to you that breeding stock, for the most part, looks more like production inventories than it does anything else. The word "animals" is added so that we could be sure that if the Supreme Court defined...did not accept our definition of inventories, and tried to apply it in a very restrictive way, that we would reach out and be able to exempt from taxation breeding stock, which arguably the Supreme Court might say is not inventory, and you didn't have a reasonable definition. But beyond that, the definition of animals is intended, like the definition of inventories, to be very expansive, and to reach out and to exempt animals that you might not even think are subject to tax. For example, you might not think that your pedigreed poodle is subject to tax, but I can assure you that if we do not grant an exemption, your pedigreed poodle will be subject to tax. Your pedigreed cat, and all kinds of animals that you may not have even thought about, can become subject to tax, unless we grant an exemption for them. So I am intending, with this amendment, to have the word "animals" broadly construed. Although, as you'll note, the amendment says that the Legislature is to define those terms. I am simply expressing my intent in bringing the amendment in that those words would be very broadly construed. With that as an