

the amendment that...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR LAMB: ...Senator Withem has offered. Then Senator Hall has a motion to kill the whole bill. I hope you will vote against that and then pass the bill today. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lamb. Senator Schmit, followed by Senators Warner and Morrissey, Wickersham, Hall, Withem, Moore and Robinson. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Madam President and members, there were those who were concerned that several of us might politicize the session and use it in a manner which would not be in keeping with the spirit of the call and try to make major amendments to 1063. I indicated earlier that so long as major changes were not made, I would let it alone. I did not agree that if an amendment was offered that made some sense that I would compromise my basic tax philosophy and not vote in support of that amendment. I've not spoken, I don't think, several hundred words in this entire area. I left that to the more eloquent members of this body, most of whom were willing to speak. I do want to point out though something that I think is very important, something which I spoke about many times during the regular session and which I expect to speak about in the future and that is the very naive attitude of many of my rural colleagues in this body and of the farm organizations who were ambivalent about 1063 and Amendment 1. I do not know how many times my friends in the Farm Bureau and the Nebraska Cattlemen, both of whom are supposed to work for the members, said, and I would paraphrase the language, we look upon 1063 as a transitional bill, one which we can work on and change as time comes forward. On this floor, rural members said, we can come back next year and exempt livestock from personal property taxes. I've told you many times if you can't stop the constitutional amendment at the present time and get what you need when you only need ten votes, you just as well pack up your suitcase and go back to wherever you came from because you will never have that opportunity again to get 25 votes. I said at the time, and I repeat it now, I do not blame Senator Withem, Senator Wesely, the urban members of this Legislature, they have got the votes. They have got the votes. I do not blame the teachers. I do not blame the trial attorneys. I do not blame the bankers or any of those entities, they've got the votes.