

change here would be the tax commissioner may have jurisdiction over the administration of the revenue laws. Before, in the original constitutional amendment that was on the ballot for November, we had stricken all constitutional references to the tax commissioner. We now leave those in. What this committee amendment would do is leave in reference to the tax commissioner and the other substantive change to doing that would be the words "may have jurisdiction" rather than "shall have" and then it allows the Legislature to define those duties. I see Senator Coordsen is here. Senator Coordsen says it's my amendment and I'm doing the committee amendments. If I've made any things that are not as you perceive them to be from the committee amendment's point, I assume you will stand up and make those plain. The committee amendments, I don't believe there was any dissenting votes coming out of committee, and would urge the adoption of the committee amendments at this point.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. For discussion of the committee amendments, the Chair recognizes Senator Hartnett, followed by Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I simply want to rise to support this constitutional amendment. I had worked with the idea for a while along and then Senator Kristensen and I have worked on the idea. I think that, as we...I think it's a good idea to take the politics out of the tax equalization process. We'll have to have a bill, if this passes the constitutional, we'll have to have a bill to deal with that. I think a year or so ago Kris...that Senator Kristensen and I had a kind of a different approach to how we wanted to do with this tax equalization committee but I think we're on...I think we're making the right step to bring this constitutional amendment to the people and let them decide whether we want to do...get the politics out of it and form another committee to deal with tax equalization, because it's very, very important in this state. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, thank you, Senator Kristensen, for introducing the committee amendment. There is, as Senator Kristensen indicated, some what are probably substantial differences between the committee amendment and the original proposal that is represented in the green copy. For example, the original proposal said that the