

again, for those of you who are just walking in, LR 3CA is the constitutional amendment that was on the ballot in November. This is the last of the five that we've discussed this year in terms of putting them back on the ballot. This deals with the Tax Equalization and Review Commission, commonly known as the TERC, but the commission itself has been changed from what originally was on...or to be on the November ballot, and those are the committee amendments here. As we've outlined, we reinstate the tax commissioner as a constitutional position. We give the Tax Equalization and Review Commission basically the same powers as provided by law, except we do take out the terms that they had jurisdiction over the revenue laws in the State of Nebraska and basically give them powers as to be determined by the Legislature, but we also give them the power for assessments and equalization of property taxation which is the main force and function to be done by that committee or that commission. And we also allow the tax commissioner may, and that's the change from the original Constitution, as it sits today, may have jurisdiction over the revenue laws in the State of Nebraska. I'm comfortable with this amendment. This is not verbatim what was on the November election. In substance, however, it has the same message. It also makes the changes that are necessary to do away with the State Board of Equalization and replace it with a more professional group to do these full time. With that, I would urge the adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. You've heard the closing. The question is, shall the committee amendments be adopted? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of the committee amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The committee amendment is adopted. Senator Kristensen, do you have an opening for the bill?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes, Senator Withem, I would like to open real briefly. Obviously, the discussion that was held and the descriptions of the committee amendment was in substance what this measure is. I want to make sure the body is familiar again with the concept that we're dealing with here. And this is the State Board of Equalization and replacing it with a commission. As you know, right now the State Board of Equalization is