

amount of time that folks can bring a lawsuit, even though we are talking about something that clearly you are going to have to have known whether it happened within the four years that are spelled out in the bill that triggered the time frame. I mean, there is really no reason for forty years. If you are talking about somebody who is injured or who is...or where there is a death that has been caused, clearly they are going to know that within ten years. If you are talking about recovering damages for injury or loss of personal property, real property, or natural resources, that is going to show up within ten years. It is all going to happen within that ten year time frame, but all of a sudden, we've decided that this certain area is special for purposes of protecting people. And we are really not talking about protecting people. Think about it. We are talking about being able to sue because I guess your car was damaged, maybe your grass didn't grow. We are talking about personal property, real property, or natural resources. A minute ago, when we wanted to use that same standard, that same forty years for personal injury to individuals, we didn't think we needed to take care of the people of this state. We didn't think that was important enough. We voted to do away with that amendment, but now for purposes of damage to personal property, real property,...

PRESIDENT ROBAK PRESIDING

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...or natural resources, we are going to say you have forty years. We are going to protect the personal property, the ground, and the natural resources 300 times more than we will individuals. That is the policy we are talking about here. I don't think we need that. I think we can let all those inanimate objects stand up to the same threshold or the same standard that we give to citizens as it relates to other product liability issues. Again, I would support the amendment that brings us to an even playing field that lets people be on the same level playing field as the dirt that is out there that might get damaged.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Madam President and colleagues. Senator Hall, would you yield to a couple of questions.