

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay. I'd like to withdraw this amendment, Senator Withem. And Senator Kristensen is right on the mark, I think, when he says that the exemptions probably don't belong on the CA, that you come back and do that statutorily if you want to do it. The other thing is, I don't want Senator Bernard-Stevens coming back on Select File on Senator Cudaback's bill and saying that, you know, you can't be exempted in on one bill and exempted out on the other bill. So I want to be consistent here so I'm withdrawing. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The amendment is withdrawn. We are now back for consideration of the Chambers amendment. Would indicate to members that we are now discussing the Chambers amendment. Senator Wickersham, do you wish to speak on the Chambers amendment? Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Excuse me, Mr. Speaker, President. Well, this is getting so confusing I didn't know whether I was going to stand up and support Senator Schimek's amendment or not, actually I don't think I was, but now it's withdrawn. Now I think we're supposed to talk about the Chambers amendment. I don't like the Chambers amendment, so I think I'll talk about the main bill (sic), if that's permissible. We seem to be able to talk about whatever we want to here this morning. I have always... I don't know what to do with 46CA. I'm concerned that I'm not sure that it does anything. If it does something, I'm not sure that we should do it. And I'm still ambivalent about the bill (sic). Actually I'm a lot warmer toward, and this is not a possessory remark, Senator Hillman, I'm a lot warmer toward, I think, the work that the Revenue Committee is going to do with (LR) 292CA, which may address some of your concerns. Because variously I hear that what we need is mergers for the sake of efficiency. On the other... and then I hear that we need to have structure for the sake of efficiency. And I'm not sure whether this is aimed at mergers or whether this is aimed at structure or whether this is aimed at something else. But if it's, but if it's aimed at efficiency, then I'm not sure that it's necessary at all because if we provide for the actual merger of counties and other entities in (LR) 292CA, that will take care of that issue. If it has to do with efficiency because of the merger of offices within a county, if you simply read the constitutional language that is there, it says "The Legislature shall provide by law for the election of such county and township officers as may be necessary". The Legislature