

different parts of merged entities so that we can encourage the merger by virtue of allowing some differences to continue to exist. Senator Kristensen talked about keeping the uniformity clause and I believe that that's what the Revenue Committee intends to do and they have done it by their qualifying language. But I don't believe that the necessity of the classification language...I don't believe that that language of classifications is necessary to accomplish the flexibility purposes that the Revenue Committee has talked about. In response to Senator Maurstad's questions about attorneys' opinions, I will quote from an attorney with a background in constitutional law who advised me that any problems with this part of the amendment regarding the uniformity clause could be avoided by removing the words "on different classes of property" in the amendment. I would urge you to support the amendment. I think that it doesn't damage essentially what the committee is trying to do in terms of giving flexibility, but I do believe it's a protection. By removing just a few words, it's a protection. And in spite of our differences on this part of the language, I will support 292 and I thank the committee for the work that they have done in crafting it. And I know that they have taken very seriously the implications of this. I just believe that we have an opportunity to make it even safer. Thank you very much.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Brown. You've heard the closing. The question before the body is the adoption of the Brown amendment to the committee amendments to LR 292. All those in favor vote aye, opposed no. Have you all voted? All those wishing to please record your vote. Mr. Clerk, please record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 2 ayes, 14 nays on the adoption of Senator Brown's amendment, Mr. President.

SENATOR WILL: The amendment is not adopted. Mr. Clerk, are there further amendments to the committee amendments?

ASSISTANT CLERK: Senator Brown would move to amend with AM3894.

SENATOR WILL: Senator Brown, you're recognized to open on your amendment.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members of the body, AM3894