

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I'd rise to oppose the amendment. While I appreciate the desire of having a statutory provision placed into the constitution, I appreciate the concept included here is, I believe, included in one of the petition drives, I don't believe that at this stage we ought to add a provision for the constitution on the assessment of this or, for that matter, other classes of property. And I would urge the body to reject the proposal on the basis that the constitutional amendment that was adopted some years ago and the statutory authority is adequate and to further put other provisions in for other classes of property I suspect would merely lead to a series of such propositions for a variety of properties and would not be the kind of tax policy that ought to be put in the constitution.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Klein.

SENATOR KLEIN: Thank you, Madam Chairman. I stand to support the amendment from Senator Schrock. I believe that if we don't do this we're going to end up with some of the districts getting the valuations raised just to cover the limits and...or the lids so, because of that, I do stand in support. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Klein. Senator Avery announces that the following guests are visiting the Legislature, there are 25 Anderson-Grove Elementary students from Papillion-LaVista School District and their sponsor. They're in the north balcony. Will you all stand to be recognized, please Welcome to the Legislature. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President. Members of the Legislature, it's unfortunate this amendment is present, but it's certainly one that has, over the years, been the topic of tremendous debate on this floor. A few years ago, when the Supreme Court thwarted what we were attempting to do with ag land valuations, we had to come back and amend the constitution a second time in order to provide for the valuation of ag lands on a different method and at different rates and allowed for reasonable classifications of that land, and that that was a very painful process to do. At that point in time, Senator Landis and myself and a couple others were really involved in