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wasn't our objective. The income numbers are changed for the elderly and married, the elderly single. Those factors change from, and I don't know, perhaps you aren't interested in those details. Maybe I ought to ask...allow you to ask questions about that if you want to. In all cases, we're raising the income levels a couple of thousand dollars. Those numbers, then, I think reflect more accurately what we're seeing in terms of current income characteristics for individuals that you would want to see qualify for the homestead exemption. But rather than perhaps running down through the individual changes in income characteristics for individuals, I'll simply let you ask questions about those provisions. But in general, the changes amount to a couple of thousand dollars increase in all of the categories. With that, I would ask you to support the committee amendments. As Senator Preister indicated in his opening remarks, this is an important property tax relief area for the Legislature to consider. It applies in several different areas across the state and is an important tool that we have, I think, for allowing people to remain in their homes and to be able to afford to remain in their homes. As you're aware, what happens with the homestead exemption is that the taxes are still calculated at the local level and then the dollars that are qualified are sent to the county treasurer and the state literally pays the property tax for those individuals on their home. With that, Mr. President, I would be happy to try to respond to questions, if there are any questions about the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. For discussion on the committee amendments to LB 179, Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Before I make my remarks, I would like to emphasize that I support the committee amendments and I will support 179 after the committee amendments are adopted, but in saying that, I think there's some issues involved in the homestead exemption that we need to speak to and some of it has to do with how we use terms. Number one, it is my belief that the homestead exemption is not a property tax relief program because the property tax does not go away. It is paid by the rest of the citizens of Nebraska from the sales and income tax, and I