

year. I think that if we don't do something like this and have to come up with other drastic changes on the homestead exemption, we are putting in jeopardy the elderly and the handicapped that have been on homestead exemption for years. And I don't think there is anyone on this floor that would want to put those people back on the tax rolls. I agree that there has to be more enforcement of the homestead exemption for the elderly. In fact there should be more investigation by the county paying at least 10 percent on a cost sharing basis. We are giving them a little incentive to go out and really check some of the applications that they are receiving from not only the elderly, but from the veterans, and from the totally disabled. I think that Senator Hall's amendment, increasing the income limitations for those that are totally disabled, because there are things that they do have to do to their home, and the income that they do receive that may be exactly like the elderly, a lot of that is used for medication and for things that they have to have because of their disability. I don't like to see any changes in the homestead exemption as it is now, but as Senator Johnson said, there will be a study. I'll be very much involved in the study because almost every bill and any change that we had on the homestead exemption was by my introduction of bills. And I did have a bill in this year to even increase that 35,000 because Douglas County had a reevaluation. And most of those that own homes in Douglas County, their valuation of their home was increased by at least 40 percent. I totally agree with the committee amendments. I urge the adoption of the committee amendments and I also urge the adoption of LB 1258.

PRESIDENT: Senator Haberman, I think he has a point.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Point of order, Mr. President. I would like to divide the question and take up item 3 separately.

PRESIDENT: All right. Senator Johnson, the amendment is written in such a way that it is rather abstruse to me. But I take it there are at least three or four categories, are there, in your amendments?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes, and it is perfectly proper for Senator Haberman to divide the question. But the first item before the house is the committee amendment which really is not divisible. If we could deal with the committee amendment and then go back and look at the bill, we could do items one, two, and three separately.