

January 8, 1974

CLERK: 6 ayes, 29 nays and 14 not voting, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion is lost. Are there any other amendments now to the bill.

CLERK: None.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion of the bill. Senator Speaker Proud.

SENATOR PROUD: Well I have a question for Senator Syas. I haven't made up my mind how to vote or whether to vote. But I'm not to sure how this creates a saving to the farmer and I'm asking you. I don't ..I'm not sure of myself on this. Because counties levy taxes and school districts. And if you take the tax off one portion of the land, how are you going to make up that money? Don't you have to add it on to the other portion of the farmer's land.

SENATOR SYAS: As I stated yesterday, and I don't know if you were here or not for sure on the debate. I said that my intention was that any loses to the County or school district like on other things that we do would be reimbursed from the State Treasury, and I think that would be very minimal.

SENATOR PROUD: You mean in other words the other tax payers would make up the difference.

SENATOR SYAS: Absolutely, because this is a bill to the general public, and to the farmer, and to all taxpayers benefit.

SENATOR PROUD: And so the school districts, and the retarded children, etc., will be out that money. Whereas we will have to impose more taxes to get it.

SENATOR SYAS: Now wait a minute I said the state would reimburse. How do you interpret that.

SENATOR PROUD: Where is the state going to get the money?

SENATOR SYAS: From the Sales and Income Tax, Liquor Tax and things like that.

SENATOR PROUD: Old John Q tax bill.

SENATOR SYAS: Right.

PRESIDENT: The chair recognizes Senator Richendifer.

SENATOR RICHENDIFER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I support Senator Syas's bill. I had the opportunity to visit with one County Board from a county that has a large amount of timber and they indicated to me that the loss in taxes would be very minimal. So..this in Burt County. Now if you could use this as a judge. If they say the loss is going to be minimal I think probably you could use it as a gage for the rest of the state. So we're not talking about a lot of money, we're talking about principles.