

March 27, 1980

LB 608

pending by the Revenue Committee, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I move for the adoption of the committee amendments. LB 608 is a new concept to homestead exemption that the committee has looked at for some time, and has finally put it into a form that we believe is acceptable. It does recognize the areas that we believe need to be recognized in exemptions based on ability and so forth. The committee amendments are based for the most part on the model circuit breaker act, and it does these following things: Number one, makes various technical clarifications. Provides that homeowners' relief would be through the state income tax credit rebate mechanism. Three, it does reduce the percentage of rent deemed to be property taxes from 20 percent to 15 percent. Clarifies that a homestead can include a mobilehome and advances the operative date of the bill to apply to the tax year 1980 when property tax bills become due on 1981. And incidentally the committee also adopted the amendment of Senator Beutler that was adopted on Senator Labeledz's bill which recognizes that special class of people in those home units that they purchase. It does include those elderly people 65 and over, also totally disabled persons. It does include those items of income not included in the federal adjusted gross income. It does have the \$40,000 in there the same as 608, and does have a sliding scale on income tables. Renters and homeowners are entitled, as I said, to relief from an income tax credit rebate instead of through the relief through the counties. That basically, Mr. President, is the content of LB 608, one that we do think has merits and think that it should be considered by this body in addition to Senator Labeledz's LB 647. With that, Mr. President, that will conclude my introduction of the bill and the committee amendments. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the committee amendments as explained by Senator Carsten. Senator Newell, your light is on. Do you wish to speak to the committee amendments?

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President and members of the body, 647 was advanced, and 647 is a bill that is quite different from 608. LB 608 with the committee amendments, and the committee amendments are very technical in nature, does two totally different...two totally different concepts. One concept, 647, is one that is based on determining need indirectly with