

gone. The committee amendment would also set a date for when the homestead exemption would begin. The committee amendment deals with some other technical details. At this juncture I would simply move the committee amendment, then we will go back and deal with the one cent increase of the sales tax.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Fine. Senator Lamb, did you wish to speak to these...Oh, that's right. We've closed. Excuse me. The question is the adoption of the committee amendments with the exception of number 5. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. It takes 25 votes. Three are excused. Have you all voted that care to? Senator Vard Johnson. Call of the house has been asked for.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: No, no, no. I just call the vote.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Oh, call the vote. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 18 ayes, 18 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the first portion of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The first portion of the committee amendments is not adopted. Okay. Now would you like to take up number 2, Senator Vard Johnson? Okay, thank you.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: I will deal with the second portion of the committee amendments. Incidentally, I am surprised by the last vote. I did not think that reflected a knowledgeable vote. The portion that folk voted against was essentially noncontroversial. Now you deal with the controversial issue. I don't have any pride of authorship in this measure. I happen to be carrying the measure, and it is a significant measure. But the truth of the matter is this body, as am I, are anxious to deal with property tax relief. We don't deal with it by just passing the issue off session, after session, after session. You've got to begin some place. Here is the beginning. The issue is very simple this time. As a debater might say, question, shall the state sales tax be increased one cent for the purpose of affecting property tax relief? That is the question. I say it should be. If you vote for this amendment, that amendment would have the effect of doing exactly that.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lamb.