

declare it an invalid law or repeal it or whatever because the only, and I use this as an example, you can treat some property different, classify it different, or value it different, but that is personal property as the result of passage of Amendment 10 back in 1970 but we never ever did that with real property. Therefore, if we don't fund it, haven't we created a system where we are not taxing the property uniformly and proportionately? I know it sounds complicated but I am asking the question of some of the lawyers and I would like you to react because aren't we in a position where we have no choice but to either fund it or repeal it. Anybody follow what I am saying?

PRESIDENT: Does any member want to (interruption)?

SENATOR DECAMP: The reason I raised the question, I am thinking of a class action suit. I have got to have something to make some money this summer since the World Herald ruined my Virgin Islands lottery business. I have got to look for business and I am raising the question. In case we don't repeal it, I can file a case.

PRESIDENT: Does somebody want to answer? Senator Hoagland. May we have order please. Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Senator DeCamp, my reaction is that we have no policy choice except to either repeal it or fund it. Postponing it a year or two years is not a viable policy option because we will be right back in the soup bowl for the second year in a row, impose, for instance, a \$150,000 in costs on Douglas County to process paperwork we are not going to honor. Now in terms of the constitutional issues you posed, I think that is an interesting question and I think you have raised a valid argument that we either have to fund it, either have to send the Appropriations Committee back for another six days to find another \$18 million in cuts and fund it this year, or repeal it. But I can't...I haven't had an opportunity to read the constitutional provisions that are applicable so I can't tell you for sure one way or another whether there is a constitutional problem but I think it certainly raises a question.

PRESIDENT: Are you finished, Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DECAMP: Yes.