

PRESIDENT: Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President and members, the amendment that I propose is the one that I talked about earlier and it is handed out to you. All that it does is delay the exemption and puts it off for a year. We have dealt with a lot of things here rather hurriedly in the last couple of weeks and I think that we were dealing with this homestead exemption in our hurried fashion a couple minutes ago. I think that delaying it makes good sense. We will probably be looking at a lot of things, I think, personally this summer in a special session. I'm not so sure that a homestead exemption may not be part of that package that we look at in a special session. I would urge the body to vote to extend this for one year. If we find that the funds are not there I will support repealing LB 809 at that time, but I think we have a lot of things that are still up in the air. As Senator Warner has said more than once, we were relying on revenue projections that if they hold true they are fine, but if they don't no one knows exactly where we are going to be. So I think that one way to put that is to say that at best we would be guessing. I think to repeal this at this time we would be guessing. I urge the body to vote to adopt this amendment which would only put it off for a year when we have more information in which to make a proper decision. At that time if we are not able to fund it, I will propose the legislation that would repeal 809. I urge the body to support this amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely. May we have order, please. (Gavel.) Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President, I know Senator Hall is trying to preserve the program and I am too. I'm not going to vote for the deferral though, because if the issue is we are going to deal with this matter in the special session, there is no real need I think to defer it at this point. We can take that action next year, or excuse me, next August when we come into special session. And furthermore, even if we don't defer it, if we don't repeal it, it is possible to implement it without any state monies, that is to say this exemption should exist within the counties and they could have a tax shift within the county and take care of this exemption without any state money so there is no real reason why we have to defer it or fund it. We can have it exist without any further action on our part