

please, and Senator Chambers. I will remind you while we are waiting to assemble that the Haberman amendment strikes Section 6 and that means to strike the provision setting the tax rate at 20 percent. Senator Haberman, there are a few that are not here. You have asked for a regular order roll call. Two minutes having elapsed, may we begin the roll call, Senator Haberman? There are I believe four who are not excused that are not here. Senator Chambers, Senator Hoagland, Senator Rod Johnson and Senator McFarland. The Sergeant-at-Arms indicated they are on their way, Senator Haberman. Let's begin the roll call, Mr. Clerk. I have had two requests, one for a regular order and one for a reverse order but the regular order came first and for that reason I will go with the regular order roll call.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken. See page 1880 of the Legislative Journal.) 23 ayes, 21 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: The amendment fails. Senator Johnson to open on, well, actually you have already waived the opening on the bill. We are now at the closing since there are no further lights on.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes. Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I would like an opportunity to close on this bill and give it whatever words it may need to move to Select File. This bill has two purposes. The first purpose is the hold harmless concept that we have discussed for quite a long period of time. And the second purpose is to set the income tax rate at 20 percent. I suspect those two purposes will be debated on Select File and on Final Reading. I would hope that 25 members would see fit to advance 1142 to Select File so that we will continue to have an opportunity for a fair dialogue because that is what this really is, it's a fair dialogue regarding an appropriate income tax rate of 20 percent and also regarding the notion of the hold harmless. Now, this bill will work, incidentally, on a hold harmless basis at a 19 percent rate. It will work just as well there. And if the collective wisdom of this body is that we are not to have an income tax rate increase, but we should have the hold harmless concept, then this bill can be amended on Select File to move that rate back to 19 percent and it will continue to operate on the hold harmless basis. And it is not for me to stand in the way of the collective wisdom of this body but what we have brought to you, what the Revenue Committee has brought to you is a concept that