

PRESIDENT: Thirty seconds.

SENATOR ABOUD: I feel we have an opportunity to do away with it. If you want to do away with the homestead exemption next January, so be it. It will be up to the majority of the people, but I think it is very premature at this particular time to be doing away with the only true method of property tax relief available to the homeowners today. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Eret. May we have order in the Chamber, please. (Gavel). The Chair recognizes Senator Eret.

SENATOR ERET: Mr. President and members, I believe that if LB 6 were to pass now, this would be the second time within the less than three years that I have served in this body that we will be repealing a homestead exemption for property tax relief, and even though I did support the advancement of this on General File, I believe I'm going to support Senator Abboud on his amendment. I think that he correctly points out that we are, we do have a statute on the books that tells the people how we can arrive at property tax relief and that the public will understand our budget situation. I think it's a tool that will be on the books for the Appropriations Committee to consider each year, whether there is or is not funds to fund it. We have other statutes on the books that are unfunded. We have scholarship funds to college students that are unfunded, so I think at this time I'm going to support Senator Abboud on his amendment and we'll just leave things in place. The movement of this bill does nothing for this special session and the things that we need to accomplish here at this time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Pirsch. Senator DeCamp is next.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. President. I have a question of Senator Abboud if he will yield.

PRESIDENT: Senator Abboud, Senator Pirsch wants to engage you in a colloquy. Order in the Chamber, please. (Gavel). Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Senator Abboud, do you know what the