

companies that take advantage of the provisions of LB 775. This is a very, very small part of LB 775 and, ladies and gentlemen, it's just not worth jeopardizing our property tax system by allowing this portion of 775 to remain in effect. It's important, I think, though as we start down the long road which we're starting down this morning to arrive at an equitable solution to the property tax crisis that we find ourselves in, it's important that things like this be taken care of along the way, that we make sure that our LB 775 provisions don't jeopardize our entire state property tax system. And, with that, I would urge your adoption of the amendment that Senator Hall and I have filed to the amendment. Thank you.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Will. Next speaker, Senator Kristensen.

**SENATOR KRISTENSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, I somewhat hesitate to rise to enter into this debate, but, Senator Hall, and I realize you're busy with a lot of colleagues, but I guess I'm a little confused. As I have listened to the debate this morning, I would kind of think that you'd want to keep these things here because you want to put people's feet to the fire and the way you put people's feet to the fire is to continue exemptions because those, as we know today, those exemptions of 775, I think, are unconstitutional. I don't know that anybody is talking about that. They are unconstitutional, in my opinion. Do I think they serve a good purpose? Yes, I do. I do think they serve a good purpose but I think you've got it backwards. What you want to do is you want to put people's feet to the fire. Well, the way to put feet to the fire is to keep those sorts of things that would cause legal challenges in the law. And as soon as people, when you all sit around between now and next year, you're going to say, well, what are we going to do to make the system constitutional? The first thing you're going to say is, we either take it all on or take it all off, or put it all on. You're not going to be able to have those exemptions. The key is you've got those exemptions today. Are those exemptions today, as we set, all right? Well, if they go to court, if let's say we put them back on today, those computers and those airplanes are going to go to court and they're going to win. They're going to win and get themselves taken back to zero as exemptions. The key is that in the long term, what Senator Hall really wants to talk about is how are we going to fix it in the long haul and how we going to get there in between? Taking these exemptions off is not going