

number of amendments proposed, including the one which has been offered by the Governor, and I just want to say that we are in the predicament we are in today because we have never really addressed the issue from the standpoint that I believe it should be addressed. And that is that the issue ought to be such that it could not be misunderstood. The Constitution is much different than a statute. A statute is specific. A statute outlines the details of what we want to do or to accomplish. The Constitution, as you all know, establishes parameters, establishes walls, and it says you may do this, you may not do this. The Federal Constitution says there shall be no law regarding the establishment of a religion, nor shall there be any law that prevents the free exercise, thereof. My amendment is very simple. My amendment says the necessary revenue of the state and of its governmental subdivisions shall be raised by taxation in such manner as the Legislature may direct. Now, ladies and gentlemen, there isn't very many people who can misunderstand that amendment. Ladies and gentlemen, there are very few people who will understand what LB...CA186 says or does. What this amendment says is that whatever this Legislature does to raise revenue in regard to property is constitutional. Now how much more specific can you be than that? We have found ourselves in situations where a previous court has said that what we did was correct, and a subsequent court has said, no, that is not constitutional. Now, ladies and gentlemen, I defy anyone, be it farmer, laborer, politician, judge, attorney, to misunderstand this amendment. This does exactly what needs to be done and it does it in a manner which defies misunderstanding. We have enacted many statutes by this Legislature. We have presented to the people a multitude of constitutional amendments. Some have been adopted and some have not, but none have been as plain and simple and direct as is this one. The hour is late, you have all labored hard. I respect the work of all of you, but I thought you ought to have the opportunity, ladies and gentlemen, to vote on this amendment. I'll answer any questions you might have. If not, I am ready to vote any time you are. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Discussion on the amendment, Senator Cudaback, did you wish to discuss that? Senator Hall?

SENATOR HALL: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members. Reluctantly, I rise to oppose the amendment, but I like it because it would allow for anything and everything and whatever