

speakers. Senator Schmit, did you wish to address this amendment?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, appreciate Senator Landis's amendment. I feel a little guilty about supporting it, I guess, because I do not at this time think that I can support LR 1. But I think that any effort we make to continue the dialogue is good, and I, for one, do not feel resentful toward increased dialogue. I think it needs to be done. It is unfortunate we do not do more of it off the floor because it would probably move more expeditiously than it does at the present time. I think that one of the concerns I do have, however, and I've watched it happen many, many times, as we all have on this floor, is that we look at a piece of legislation. We don't like it, and then we add to it and add to it until we get the necessary votes for it to become acceptable to a majority of the members. My concern at this time is very simple, that is that I do not believe that we can rationally exempt a part of the personal property and tax the remaining part of it. I think that it either makes sense to exempt it all, or to tax it all, and I think that that is the argument. I appreciate Senator Warner's remarks about the education, and the fact that improved education increases income and you tax that. The same is true, as we all know, with an increased amount of farm equipment, an increased number of animals in the feedlot. If you increase your income, we pay income tax also. There is no exemption for the personal property tax made from our income tax. So in addition to the money that the individual spends on their own education, the taxpayer has already subsidized that education considerably. There is no subsidy for the businessman, the person who has the inventory. There is no subsidy for the farmer who needs the farm equipment with which to earn a living. There is no subsidy for the cattle feeder who needs to fill the feedlot, or the hog producer, or the poultryman, and my concern at the present time is this. I was sort of pleased to see Senator Beutler come with his amendment on the exemptions of business inventories, and it is generally conceded on this floor right now that there will not be a tax on business inventories. That is very simple to understand. Ever since Ms. Rex from the League of Municipalities came in and testified in support of reinstating all the tax on personal property, ladies and gentlemen, I am sure that your telephones have been ringing as has been mine. My car dealers, my implement dealers, my furniture dealers are all calling me and reading me the riot act. And so all of a sudden we have seen