

rabbit hasn't died. But I have been willing to look for another rabbit, and we have gone about that process yesterday and today. What I have up in Bill Drafters and have being drafted right now and really have to wait until it comes down is a proposal that would incorporate a little bit of everybody's program in terms of the funding mechanism. It would incorporate the surcharge of 2 percent that virtually everyone has agreed to, signed off on. It would incorporate one-half of the sales tax collection fee that everyone has agreed to. It would then take the corporate income tax and put an increased bracket on that. There was a proposal that came out of the committee. There was the sales tax, utility sales tax, with a cap of 100,000, and exempting agriculture altogether. That's another aspect of it. That was something that came out of the Governor's proposal, and there was the \$150 one-time corporation filing fee that came from the business community behind the glass, in addition to the surcharge and the sales tax collection fee. So what this proposal does that is being drafted, I think most of you have had an opportunity to see what the numbers look like; raises 50 million from the 2 percent surcharge, 10.1 from the corporate income tax, 7.1 from the collection fee, 18.5 from the utility sales tax, again, with a cap of 100,000 and agriculture exempted out, and then 7.5 million on the \$150 corporate filing, one-time, for a total of \$93.2 million. There virtually is no opposition to this proposal, virtually. There is only one aspect of it that the State Chamber is opposed to, and it isn't...they aren't opposed to the revenue amount, they are opposed to the form in which we do it. So when the proposal is in front of us, I guess there is going to be at least one point of debate that will center around the corporate income tax, and the Chamber would approve of a surcharge on corporations' income, but they do not like the proposal as it currently exists. I am being very straightforward and honest about that. They are the only group, that I know of, that are opposed to any other aspect of this. There is others that do not like every portion but are willing to live with it. The Governor has said that he will watch the debate and can live with a proposal in this form that would be advanced by the body. But at this point, Senator Moore, I appreciate the opportunity to talk about it. I will have to rise and oppose your amendment, but until I have my amendment down, which my understanding is will be shortly, I don't have anything to talk about except the amendments that are in front of us, and the bill as it currently exists.