

responsibility is toward the state operation. I quite frankly agree it is and if you want to, as we intended to do, come in with an appropriation with existing available funds, then the level of appropriation as included in the committee bills plus the allocation for A bills can accomplish that and if, on the other hand, you want to increase the sales and/or income tax rate and I assume most likely income tax rate but depending upon what the fifty fifty split was in November and I do not recall between the two tax sources, but as long as you understand the impact of the adoption of the amendment, that in my opinion at least, this year without question would affect tax rates. I guess that is all that is important. I would like to vote for more state aid to schools but I look at the amendments. We have adopted some. I look at a number of A bills up there and I will just flat...I don't know what else to say other than that there is no way that you can handle all these amendments. At some point you have to accept the fact that accumulative consequences of each amendment adds up to big dollars and when you get to those big dollars then you increase sales, income tax rates, one or the other or both. And I would hope, notwithstanding the merit that can be argued for any increase, I would hope that the overlying control the body would adopt is to stay within existing revenues. I would hope you would not support the amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I was visiting with Senator Johnson on his statistics and they are the old Frank Lewis statistics, friend of education, always used to trot them out, point out accurately that the priority of the Appropriations Committee is the support of state government operations and within those priorities if we were to look at Senator Johnson's statistics, it is in the operation of state government and the operation of education that we put our emphasis and there is a major reduction in capital construction and if there is anything that statistics show, is a 27% reduction in money for capital construction. Senator Cullan may be planning to try and change that with one of his amendments for a capital construction project but I think it accurately reflects the priorities that we establish in our committee. Now that certainly can be changed on this floor but I think we ought to be honest as to what we are doing with this amendment. With the local spending lid this is not any increased resources for education. It is a shift from property taxes to sales and income taxes to support existing education and I have supported that in the past but I do agree with Senator Warner that that should not come at the expense of support for the corps responsibility of state government, the areas of public safety, education and so on. And that is the