

people being laid off, farmers having a tough time, I don't think a few more days is going to make any difference in how you consider the Appropriations requests that are presented to the state. It seems to me that we can wait for the Revenue Committee to come out with a bill. I understand yesterday they did not come out with one of the bills, and so I would suggest that this Legislature can decide today whether or not they want to spend an extra \$15 million, whether or not the money comes from one formula or another, I see that as less important than the total fund that is being spent. I would oppose laying the bill over.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Burrows, did you wish to talk on the Carsten motion?

SENATOR BURROWS: Yes.

SENATOR CLARK: To lay over.

SENATOR BURROWS: Mr. Chairman and members of the body, I fully support the Carsten motion to lay this over. The \$15 million involved in the amendment really is insignificant since it would take nearly \$30 million of state funds going back to the subdivision to hold harmless that 7 percent lid on real estate tax. Nearly half of the savings that come about through the federal income tax reduction is passed on to the state. The \$15 to \$16 million reduction by holding the line on the state income tax rate that we are talking about, the 15 percent rate is not a magic figure. Nobody is locked into that and it takes a couple points in the income tax to stop from passing on the federal income tax reduction as a state income tax reduction. Now if we don't appropriate somewhere in the neighborhood of \$30 million, we are shoving the real estate taxes up on the taxpayers of this state by somewhere between 9 and 11 or 12 percent. There is a lot of animosity against the real estate tax system and I don't believe the taxpayers of this state are going to take the shell game of talking about an income tax cut and letting it slip over on the real estate tax and that is the basic issue that I think is of real significance to the body. To get that income tax, we are zero groping or nearly zero groping the funds that are going to the subdivisions, and that means that 7 percent lid equates to somewhere between 9 and 12 percent property tax hike on the homeowner and on the farmer of this state. We have got more farmers across the state now that are more worried about getting an income than paying 1 or 2 percent income tax. I think the real serious view and the responsible