

which I voted for twice before and many of you have is getting a little old in a sense, and we should discuss this matter in terms of the resolution and with the amendment that Senator Warner is going to propose that is going to try and increase that to a reasonable level, and that is the place at which we make the decision. And for us to determine the tax rates and some of the concerns that have been expressed here, it seems to me to indicate that the system that we have set up in the state isn't working or something is wrong to take such an unusual extraordinary step. Let's make the system work as it's supposed to work, and then we can talk about some of the changes you are expressing in this resolution. If we had, as Senator Newell proposed, voted to change the system and gone back to the Legislature setting tax rates, well, that would be a different story. That is a policy change. But for this unusual step to be taken when we have got a Board of Equalization that has got a job they are supposed to be doing, I don't see the necessity at this point. We set the budget, we are going to set the maximum overall budget in a few minutes with a resolution and then the Board of Equalization will have to act to respond to that action that we take on this floor. That is the system we have got now and let's use that system to deal with the problems that we have got.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Are there other lights?

SENATOR CLARK: Yes, seven.

SENATOR NEWELL: Seven other lights?

SENATOR CLARK: Yes. Pardon me, eight.

SENATOR NEWELL: That may be too many to try to call the question at this time. I'll let some more debate go.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, I have listened with interest to the debate this morning on this issue and it seems to me that I think there is an underlying current beneath all the debate and I think we all recognize it and I just simply wanted to make one comment. It seems to me that we are getting down to that point in time when this body, each of us individually, need to be statesmen and not politicians. We need to do what we