

legislation. In my estimation, it had nothing, no impact other than to provide some tax relief to those that have the greatest and largest ability to pay, and I just don't think that is right. I think you should think about it. You have to ask yourselves, now how many people experience any capital gains in the first place? I mean there are many of us out there struggling day to day just trying to pay for the child care, and pay for the house, and pay for the car, and pay for everything that you have got to have to live on, and at the same time, we have no extra cash to put away for savings. Capital gains is the last thing we think about. We'd love to have a dollars worth of capital gains, let alone hundreds of thousands of dollars or millions of dollars of capital gains. There are many people in those situation. And how many people earn even \$500,000 in a lifetime, let alone accumulate \$500,000 in capital gains? I think there are a lot of folks out there that are today maybe retired and never even saw \$500,000 in their lifetime, let alone have the ability to save and earn that amount in capital gains. And as you look at your own individual districts, you have got to ask the same question, how many people from your own district are going to benefit from leaving the provision as is? How many people do you know of that would be able to claim 500,000 plus in capital gains? Now I just think you have got to come to the conclusion that it is very few people, and it is the very people that I think have the best ability to pay. I am very discouraged by trend lines and the way I think some things have gone in terms of tax policy in this state and in this nation. I have felt for quite some time that we have too much recognized the very powerful and the very rich, and we have taken their concerns to heart and we have responded to them, but the concerns of the working people, the concerns of the elderly, the concerns of the folks out there that work two or three jobs just to scrape together \$15,000 to try and live on, take care of their kids and broken families with only one income, the sort of life that they have to lead, and how we can and should help those people. Now this Legislature has responded. I am not saying you are hardhearted or cold-hearted. This body has been responsive, I think, to the needs of many individuals in great need. We have adopted ADC benefit increases and many other efforts that I think are worthy, so I don't want to imply in any way, shape, or form the members of this Legislature haven't recognized that other side of the state, but at the same time, those very people that I think we understand have a great need look at this policy of capital gains, and look at these individuals with the superincomes, and