

that we still want more, that we still need a sales tax increase...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Wesely, excuse me, please. (Gavel.) The house is not in order.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just think it's awfully hard to justify. Now, I think as we examine the future and we look to the obligations we're undertaking, the time may come when we're going to have to make an adjustment. And the problem I have seen with this body and with our state government has been in the hard times when we needed to adjust our rates to maintain revenues. We weren't willing to do that and it hurt us and I understand that. But these are good times right now and this is not the time to adjust those rates, I don't believe. The time to adjust them, I think, is at a moment in which we need to go back to the people and say, here we are with obligations and needs and an adjustment is called for. Another, I think, justification to make an adjustment would be a specific program, say, in property tax relief where we go back to the voters...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...and we say, yes, we're making an adjustment but here's what you get back for that adjustment. And, in fact, some of that is in this amendment. I think Senator Schmit is tying an increase to a specific role and function but I don't think at this moment this is the time and this is the place to move forward with it. I would ask your opposition to the Schmit amendment, your support for LB 89 in its current form, understanding adjustments may be called for, other amendments may be called for and we may revisit the Schmit proposal but not here on General File and not today at this point in the session.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. An amendment to the amendment. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hall would move to amend Senator Schmit's amendment. Well, Senator, actually the amendment you have is to the amendment that Schmit...Senator Schmit has pending later, so it's not to this amendment I have before me right now.

SENATOR HALL: Then I guess in this case it wouldn't be