

we address the issue of tax policy and does the state have what is commonly called coherent tax policy heretofore referred to as? But anyway, the issue is does this belong in the bill or not? And I would argue it does not. What we have to do is weigh our decisions based on the merits of the bill and they should be as clear and concise and as pure as they possibly can be and then we put those pieces together and we see if we have on one side of the ledger enough revenue to pay for the issues that we have felt strongly enough to move over to Final Reading that the body supports. And if we don't, then we have two choices. The first choice is to cut back on some of those options that we have over there, some of those ideas, some of those concepts, some of those dollars...spending dollars that we have in bills like LB 84. If we choose to, as a body, say that these are important, we need to do these, then our second option is that we have to raise the revenue to pay for them. I am not opposed to doing that. But first and foremost we have to have the ability to make the decisions free and clear of any clutter with regard to the taxing issue tied into this bill. I have got another bill on Select File right now that we could easily gut and use as a mechanism with the suspension of the rules to provide for the same provision that Senator Landis offers to LB 84. But it should not come before we decide what our priorities are with regard to not only the budget but other big ticket items like LB 84, LB 89, indigent care and other things. We have yet to discuss the budget and we haven't even seen it and we're talking about putting the funding mechanism into LB 84 and LB 84 alone. We talked about it on LB 89 and it was rejected. We talked about it on LB 84 on General File and I'm on record as saying I would support it, if necessary. I am not yet convinced that it is necessary. So I think it is premature to suspend the rules and to adopt the Landis amendment to LB 84. If we need it, I will wholeheartedly support, carry and find a vehicle that we can discuss and, hopefully, amend it to...so that we can pass LB 84 in the form that is before us. I do not think that it makes sense at this time for us to put the half-cent sales tax over the nine-month period although I do think that that's the proper form it should take.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: And I applaud Senator Landis's motion here. I don't agree with it at this point in time. There are 21 days left in the session. There are bills that have to be moved over. There is a budget that has to be addressed. It isn't