

discussed a little bit more, we though we ought to put a little fudge factor in there so that we wouldn't have to come back into special session to raise a little more money because setting tax rates is not an exact science. We have worked on this many, many hours and we had a lot of discussion. We met with the Department of Revenue officials and even they were not quite sure whether we would be keeping this revenue neutral. And so we advanced...the Revenue Committee advanced the bill to General File. We debated on the issue in the Chamber here and eventually passed the bill that we thought would be as close to revenue neutral as we could get it. Last year we came back and amended that a little bit with a bill and returned approximately \$10 million to the taxpayers that we thought we were out of line with. And now we're coming back and fine-tuning it a little bit more to the tune of \$18 million so the total will be \$28 million. I think this is the right thing to do because we committed ourselves or, at least, I did anyway and 30...or 29 other members of this body, that we would try to keep it as close to revenue neutral as we could. Remember, it was 1986 that the federal government did their federal tax reform and so we didn't know exactly how this would come about. But I...I just feel that we ought to defeat this motion, go ahead and read the bill and pass the bill and go from there. I believe it's the right thing to do.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Hall, please.

SENATOR HALL: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. Shall debate now close? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Please record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate ceases. Senator Hall or Senator McFarland. Senator McFarland, please, for closing.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: Yes, Mr. Speaker, thank you. Fellow senators, I would like to respond to a couple of comments about senators who are saying that they passed LB 773 not knowing that it was a tax increase and that LB 773 was unintentional. I'm going to have distributed to you a series of quotes from the legislative floor debate on 773 and I urge you to read them and take a look at them. It's entitled "Who Can Honestly Say They