

things we're saying that, income taxpayer, after we've increased the budget by double digits, after we've spent 60 million on buildings when we override the Governor's veto, if there is any money left, then we'll give you some. Well, we know if you really override those vetoes, if they come, there will not be any money left for this. And Senator Hannibal said this is really a motion to kill LB 739. Now this whole issue is one of those things where it reminds us in here how lucky we are to have a nonpartisan Legislature. This is one of those issues that from the beginning has been strictly down party lines from its opponents to its supporters. I think that is indeed unfortunate, because you know the most unfortunate thing about it is that some of the critics of the administration have their feet set to the fire here, and now are forced to support a bill they have been bemoaning for two years now. And I was glad to see Senator Wesely stand up and say in his opinion it wasn't enough, but yet it was giving money back. And, if I heard Senator Wesely correctly, he was now going to support the bill. I think that would be the consistent position for Senator Wesely to take, given his comments over the last two years. Now, going back two years ago the reason I, myself, voted against 773 is because Senator Tim Hall, twice, and I remember correctly, on Select File and then again on Final Reading, three times he says now, offered amendments to the bill to lower the lower middle income tax brackets. He made that argument very clear to me even though I was an initial supporter for 773 in its early stages, Senator Hall made a believer out of me. I remember the day we voted on that I looked over to Hall, he voted yes on 773, I voted no because he convinced me. Well, much to my surprise now the Governor, in her original proposal, and now it's the legislative proposal as Senator Wesely stated, wants to go back and do exactly what Senator Hall wanted to do two years ago. But at least he was up front in saying he likes the money better than I, he just doesn't want to give it back. But the fact of the matter is the reason I voted against 773 is because I thought it was unfair for the low and middle income taxpayers, like Senator Hall tried so hard to get me to believe, and he did get me to believe. Now I wish Senator Hall would agree with this... would be consistent with his own statements two years ago, and now in all of our opinion, I hope, make this whole tax system fair to the low and middle income taxpayer. With that said, I of course oppose the bracket motion. I hope the body will read this bill, LB 739, today. And in response to Senator Nelson, about where is the money going to come from, some of those things, two years ago, I made it very clear that the low