

their pristine form whence they first came before this body. I don't blame them for doing that. With the exception of the Farm Bureau, all those entities had a vested interest and had to do what they could do to maintain their income flow. One of the questions that was never raised was, what happens if an individual happens to suffer a reverse? Senator Warner had some hail damage on his corn crops, others had drouth damage, others had other kinds of income. People in salaried positions take reductions. The Goodyear employees took a 30 percent reduction, from \$12 an hour to \$8.50 an hour. What did they do? They readjusted their lives, that's what they did, they took a second look. They said, what are we doing now that we're going to have to quit doing? Has anyone suggested that maybe somewhere along the line the continual escalation of expenditures at every single level of government ought not be stabilized and even reversed. We've done it a few times. We called ourselves back into Special Session, Governor Kerrey did, and said, whoa, the money is not here, we're going to cut it off. All of a sudden wailing and gnashing of teeth was rampant. But, you know what? No one jumped off the 14th floor. No one said, I'm going to quit this government job. No one said, I'm going to march to another state and find a state that doesn't treat me so inequitably. I had people coming to me saying, Schmit, you know, ration up the hours on our jobs, but don't lay anybody off; we'll hang tight. They understood it. We react, in every instance on this floor, as if we had to keep the cash flow going in perpetuity, when, in fact, it's not going to be there always. We raised and spent an additional \$300 million last year, something like that, even though we insisted the tax was not a permanent thing, tax increase. We may have a little problem with that come the next session and the session thereafter. I really think that Senator Withem is on the right course here. We have not a normal situation. We have a situation which is chaos, created in part, at least, by ourselves and our absolute unwillingness to face reality and address the issue, and a responsible manner contributes to that chaos. So we're telling the taxpayers, listen, there may be unconstitutional tax out there, but unless you hire an attorney and file a lawsuit, you're not going to be reimbursed. It may be a small amount of money. You can't talk to an attorney, Senator Landis, for less than a hundred bucks, sometimes not a very good one for that. You've got to file a lawsuit, going to cost you some money to do that. You've got to file the action. So the average taxpayer, who has less than several hundred dollars of money coming back, says, well, nuts.