

before. But what does the amendment do? The bill now calls for some changes, calls for some changes that say that some individuals who may think that the tax is unfair will not get access to refunds from an unfair tax, that's what the bill says. What does the amendment do? The amendment returns us to the status quo. Everything else about this session is designed to preserve the status quo, everything that is put before us, preserve the status quo, don't deal with the problems. We've had problems for two years now. We've been promised that we're going to deal with this problem in its entirety. We've been promised since March of 1988 that we have to get people together, we have to get a broad-based group together to attack this problem. Has that group even been created yet? Have any of you been involved in that? No. There's been a little group, called the Crisis Response Team, that includes three or four lobbyists for some trade associations, and two or three senators. And we're promised that, if we do this stuff, maybe we'll get this other group, this other group created. But have we seen it? No. We have a problem, we've had it for two years. When you have a problem you deal with it, you don't bring this kind of garbage in front of us. What my amendment does is very simply says, if we've got an unfair tax system out there, which we all know that we do, we're not going to bar individuals from recovering under that unfair system. This amendment preserves the status quo, it does not change it. If you want to deal with the unfair tax system, if you want to deal with what is out there, with the \$120 million that Howard Lamb is talking about, and a fairer system of taxation, then let's get at it. If this amendment doesn't go, the next best thing to do, I think, is to adjourn sine die, go home, send the message to the Governor that we want to deal with the problems in its entirety. Senator Chambers' rhetoric is excellent, we want to act like a Legislature. We don't want to act like a bunch of lap dogs who run in here, respond to three pieces of garbage that are put in front of us, and then go home and pretend like we've done something, because we haven't. The proposal we've been talking about at our seminar, I'm not enough of an egotist to tell you that that is the answer. That is only one, small portion of the answer dealing with school finance. There are lots of other things that we have to do. But you don't do those by...

SPEAKER BARRETT PRESIDING

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.