

your presence. Those not in the Chamber please return so that we can move...so that we may move on. Looking for Senator Ashford, Senator Lamb, Senator Weihing, Senator Smith. Looking for Senator Smith, everybody else is here, except those excused. Senator Landis, did you wish a roll call vote, record vote, or did you ask for anything?

SENATOR LANDIS: Well, it's...I suppose a roll call vote would be sufficient. We have one member who is not here?

PRESIDENT: That's correct, but I wasn't going to go until she came, unless you wish to do so. She's on her way, I understand. Now we're all here, and the question, ladies and gentlemen, is the adoption of the Dierks amendment to the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye. We'll have a roll call vote. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Roll call vote taken. See page 125 of the Legislative Journal.) 21 ayes, 22 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: The amendment to the amendment fails. Do you have any other amendments to the amendment?

CLERK: No, sir, I do not.

PRESIDENT: All right. We're back to the committee amendment. The call is raised. Do you have anything to put in, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Not at this time, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Okay. We'll go back to the committee amendments. Senator Elmer, your light is on first, followed by Senator Warner and Senator Crosby.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. President. You know the taxpayers of this state know by repeated and rerepeated castigations in the press and by individuals and organizations that we are accumulating and collecting a large surplus in our General Fund. I want to ask you how foolish we would look if we raised taxes of any kind in a special session like this, in the face of this, and the effect that we tell the taxpayers, even if we have plenty we want more, even though the treasury is fat, we want it fatter. I say lean it down. Use some of the surplus to make up this deficit and the deficit to our local governments,