

too, would rise to oppose consideration of this amendment at this time. As others, however, before I speak to that issue I, too, wish to express my personal view of how Senator Hall has handled this issue, both in the committee as well as on the floor, and I can only be complimentary to the approach that he has used to try and accommodate the various views that exist and I have accepted his actions in every case to be in full face to pursue that course before the Legislature as a whole. However, I am in the belief that those who are in support of 1120 should have the opportunity to place that bill in the position or defend that bill in whatever position that they want. I agree totally with what Senator Withem has indicated that this debate, for the next three or four days, or however long it lasts, is part of a very important and significant educational process that the citizens of this state are entitled to have. They are entitled to know the full impact of various alternatives or two basic alternatives that the Legislature may proceed, and it is my belief that pursuing what 1120, as it came out of committee or with whatever amendments the majority of the body wish to adopt, is the appropriate course to go. To me, the fundamental issue in this whole issue, it's the fundamental question the citizens are going to look at is, where is the shift going to occur in taxation for the state as a whole, to whom the justification for it and then finally, whether or not it's going to be accepted by the citizens across the state or at least the majority because I belong to that school of thought that a constitutional amendment is required and that means that public acceptance and support is going to be essential to what this body finally does and that public support and acceptance is only going to come about if the citizens have had a really good opportunity through the debate that occurs in this body of the impact of those options. People tend to forget some time, but every major change that has occurred in our tax policy, at least the last 25, 30 years, has been preceded by a vote of the people amending the Constitution either to require something to happen or to permit something to happen and in every instance eventually, sometimes it would take twice, but eventually the voters have given the approval to changes in the Constitution to permit policy changes in taxation. Once again we're faced with that position. And above all else in this issue, from my viewpoint at least, is the need to have that public confidence built and certainly I concur and I hope that I can also contain myself that my comments will always be constructive and that it will be positive in nature and it will be educational in nature so citizens can really understand those options that we are