

agree with Senator Hall that we do not...should not necessarily say no to the idea that we have increased state aid for the public school system. I think that's something that we continue to look at. So, in conclusion, Senator Elmer, I'm not ready to vote today on this tax proposal, and I doubt that there are very few people on this floor that are. But that certainly doesn't preclude my voting for something like this in the future. I think it's a very intriguing idea. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Madam President, members of the body. I'm just going to be very redundant with what Senator Hall and Senator Schimek just got through saying. I am not going to support the Elmer amendment, I think, given the fragile nature of what we're trying to do here and our need to accomplish something by...at least by the November election, that I think that we cannot impose this sort of solution on the citizens, expect them to understand it. And I'm not sure I think it is particularly a better policy or a poorer policy than we currently have before us. But one of my frustrations as a member of the 3-R Committee was that we spent a lot of time the first several months of that process gathering alternatives...gathering information, understanding current tax sources, looking at alternatives, one of them which I was particular intrigued with that Senator Elmer did mention in his...in his opening was the Michigan single business tax concept. And I found it to be an intriguing idea and thought our committee should have looked further at that approach. We kind of had a couple of nice presentations, and then said, eh, too complicated, and put it aside. One of the approaches that...one of the values of it was that it did not impose a property tax on inventories, but the wealth recognized by holding an inventory was, in fact, taxed through the single business approach. Liked the idea, thought we should have, as a committee, been a little more creative in the approaches that we look. But political reality sat in during the summer, and we realized that the real nub is going to be what do you do with personal property. And we were never able to get beyond that and reach a consensus. The same stumbling block that's hit us between the 1120 approach, and the 1063 approach, hit us during the 3-R approach, and we never got beyond that, we never got into looking at creative tax solutions. And I know, Senator