

going to do next year is we are going to address the income tax, not only in a technical sense with the bracket issues, but we are going to address it in terms of base increases, because we won't have any choice. And that really is the message that I wanted to leave you with here today, is that the Legislature is going to deal with income tax in a much greater way than the technical change that Senator Landis offered to the body that would have, I think, probably been adopted by the Governor, although it clearly was not his proposal. It was a compromise one that did bring some shifting for those at the lower income, and did build progressivity into the top end, but not to anyone's detriment by any stretch of the imagination. And it clearly was not what you would call an income tax increase for anyone, not even those at the very top end, to any great extent. It was minimal. What we are going to do next year is look at income tax increases. We are going to be looking at sales tax increases, we are going to be looking at sales tax exemptions that are no longer viable, because that's what is going...it is going to take in order to allow for the kind of budget, the kind of revenue we need to pay for that budget, and the kind of expenses that are looking us all in the eye. Folks, you need to understand that that's where we're headed, and that really all the Landis proposal did was start us down that road, and I appreciate his willingness to be here in the eleventh hour and attempt to do that. But it clearly was nothing more than a start in a very long process for an income tax increase in this state. With that, I'd give the balance of my time to Senator Moore to speak to the issue again.

SENATOR CONWAY: Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: I would ask the Chair to rule Senator Hall's motion out of order, since he was not voting on the prevailing side.

SENATOR CONWAY: I will have to rule Senator Hall out of order. He did vote with the ayes, and they did not prevail, so therefore you are out of order, Senator Hall. Mr. Clerk. Call is raised.

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: We will now proceed in the agenda to Final Reading. Members, please return to your seats so that we may begin Final Reading. Members, please return to your seats so we