

you will be talking about doubling the fee and what that means to people and how that is perceived. Well, tripling this tax is a bite. Now if I'm going to do that with the assurance and guarantee and warranty that that's it from now till the year 2000, I can come closer to buying into that than if I just know that it's for this year and next and then I'm going to be back at the trough being asked to generate more tax money. And so I guess I'm interested in the intentions of people and the powers that be and somewhat assurances and honor and with that in mind and since some of the discussion on this occurred while the Micron bills were going through with the speed of Micron which is somewhat, as I said in committee the other day, somewhat faster than sound, but slower than light. The speed of Micron will be a term that we use from time to time from now on during this session at least. And I need to ask Senator McKenzie a question if I could about the projections and intentions if we go to three-quarters cent here, Senator McKenzie, what assurances do we have that you can state for the body that we'll not be in here...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS PRESIDING

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: One minute.

SENATOR BROMM: ...in two years asking for another quarter cent or half cent?

SENATOR MCKENZIE: Senator Bromm, you know that we can't bind the hands of future legislatures. The assurance...I guess the only assurance I can make for you is that this bill intends to solve this problem for the life of the program, that unless we make a change in the qualifying deadline at the end of this year to allow any other plants to begin construction, that this will in fact fully fund the EPIC fund and in that case I would see no reason that we would come back in to change the legislation unless someone actually intended to come in and try to take something away or hurt someone intentionally. The General Funds are...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Time.

SENATOR MCKENZIE: I'm sorry.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Dierks, followed by Senators Vrtiska and Maurstad.