

will say which assures that increased state obligations due to restructuring or increased state aid are reflected in lower property taxes. Well, that is fine, but what about...what about the counties that are at 50 cent levies? What about those counties that are at their absolute max now compared to a county that is at 40 percent levy? One county is not going to have much effect at all, the other one is going to be hit very, very hard. Are we going to talk about that today? And which number are we going to put in there and what are we going to do about that? I don't think we'll talk about that today. If you look at the, again, on point four, the last sentence says, ultimately, it is the goal of the Legislature to achieve a levy cap of no more than two dollars. It was also the goal of the Legislature to fund state aid at 45 percent. What happened to that goal? And what will happen to the goal that we set here? Goals are meaningless unless you put the dollars in or you make the policy. I'd like to put the amendment in that says specifically the dollar amount that it would take and see how many of you jump on that bandwagon, and you won't do it. Another thing, if you keep going down, you go to point five, and it talks about to the extent possible we will restructure local services to eliminate, let's go ahead and talk about some of the specifics. How many people are going to vote to eliminate the clerk of the district court? How many people are going to vote to eliminate county clerks? How many people are going to vote for the regional public defender system? Senator Wesely raises his hand so I know those probably are going to fail. No, that's not true, Don. I just said that just as a little levity for the most part. No, probably it'd pass on that part. I would think there is a lot of discussion out there that we have of no specifics but just some general goals. And if you look on the last portion of it, was probably the most important one, in the middle of point seven, the Legislature will limit our appropriations to less than historic growth rate of state revenues plus expected reductions in federal funds. There is a good one. Somebody fill in that number for me in the next two years what the reduction in federal funds is going to be; 88.1 million that the Governor is talking about or 300 million if they balance the whole budget by the year 2007? What number are you going to put in there, and what policy are you going to have today that we are going to all agree upon at the end of this session? And the final one, the one sentence on point seven, the final sentence, general tax increases are to be the last resort, that's a good one. What are we telling the public