

option, where will we find \$54 million? Senator Wehrbein, I'm not going to ask you to answer it, but where do we find \$54 million plus to keep that going? How are we going to continue to fund a tax increase for a local entities to try to replace or help them with their loss of services? And, oh, by the way, I've heard no one talk about when the budget in the federal Congress is balanced, which it won't be certainly till after the election. But when that does happen, and we lose \$300 million, how are we going to do that? And you can talk till the cows come home about what we'll have to do. And until you face the actual economic reality, we can't do it without increasing taxes. And I'll bet my bottom dollar that this body will not have the courage at that point in time to raise the revenue because you're going to have a Governor, whether it's Governor Nelson or the next governor, Governor Robak in that particular case, and this chamber of commerces, and people who are going to say, no tax shifts. In fact the emphasis is going to be the opposite, the emphasis is going to be, now that we have done this at the local subdivisions, we need to do that at the state level. We need to cut our spending down to 2 percent and have a growth policy and this type of thing. I'll bet you odds we will never get to the increasing of revenue, and yet we talk here as if the community colleges, no problem, they'll probably be up to part of the, be a part of the state. I'm sorry, there is a problem. At least Senator Chambers offers us a choice that says,...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...look, we can get 30 or 40 million dollars, and at least we can begin planning for that time, when it's going to happen. And this amendment will fail. I know it will fail. But if you're really in your heart believes when the push comes to shove you'll be voting for tax increases and the public will urge you to do so, I don't think so. And I think there'll be a lot of pain out there. Senator Warner, I think in his heart believes that that pain will cause us, give us some type of leverage to do the tax enactments. I put to you that maybe the 75 percent of people who don't have any kids any more in this school won't care and they'll be delighted that their property tax went 't down and they won't want their other taxes going up. Bottom line. You have to make that call. This amendment will fail, but I'll support it because if you are truly believing what you are saying about community colleges and