

use money already appropriated in the Legislative Council, and if General Funds are necessary, they'll come back next year through the budgetary process. That's the amendment. I think that's the way to go. I mentioned to Senator Coordsen that I'd be gentle on the first one, I was, I was too gentle I think, and consequently, it failed and maybe it'll fail again. Maybe that's what the Legislature wants to do. I do want to point out one thing on the laptops. I did not, the other night, did not prior to this, but I will now, any of you that have gone back and looked at the laptop, ask yourself the following questions: If I have the laptop, how much time does that actually save me? For example, if I push my laptop...have my laptop open, I put my finger on the line that I want on the bill, and it gives me the bill. Can I write on the screen? No. Can I get a copy of that on my desk where I can write on? No. I'm going to need to get a copy of it so I may want to write on. And so how much time do you save by having it there on the computer screen of which if the light is not good, you may not be able to see it and you're not going to be able to bring your laptop up so you can look at it and talk about it, how much time do you save in opening up the bill book and finding it? And is it worth the cost to do that? Sometimes I think, well, some of the members simply want a laptop so they can take home, for the most part, so they can, they can use it to access the Legislature. And that's fine. But I don't think we need to do it on the General Fund at this particular time. The other thing you want to ask on laptops, Senator Coordsen talked about it last night, he talked about the computers in our offices, would we, would we have liked not to have had those, and have we become accustomed to them? Absolutely we've needed those. Absolutely we use them. But the staff use them most of the time to get the information we need. We get the e-mail from constituents on those now. That has no relationship to the amount that we'll use on the laptops in the body. And so there are a lot of questions of, is it the best use of dollars? Are there better programs out there? Is the one we're looking at now going to be obsolete by the time we get into it? All I'm saying is, let's don't go to the public and say, yeah, we're tough on property taxes, you're really going to have to cut back on schools, and by golly, cities, we're going to...some of you are really going to be hit on the property tax levy cap, oh, by the way, on something we haven't even voted yet to do on a computer frill because we don't have to have it but it'd be nice, we voted for more money for ourselves. Let's don't put ourselves in that situation. It's not proper to do.