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SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, as we started talking about this yesterday, we talked about getting the cart before the horse, where we were talking about raising the revenue before we knew what our appropriations were going to be. I find this morning's discussion a little bit the same thing in that we seem to be getting off of the track that Senator Brashear and others are trying to chart the main course for us to go. And I think it behooves us all to let's stay on track. The other thing is what I want to do is talk just a little bit to my fellow rookie senators here and that's this, is I hope that you've been here long enough that you've gained the respect for this office. You are the state senator and this body has great tradition, and I think it is imperative to all of us to remember that, particularly those that are starting out. We are an important part of this process and let's not forget it. Let's be patient. Let's listen to the whole discussion. Let's not be railroaded into doing the first thing that comes along in thinking that we have to take the easy course that is handed out to us. Remember one thing, the votes of us rookies count just as much as the most seasoned person in this area. I think what we need to do is this. Let's look down the road at the big picture. I have the good fortune of being the first generation born in this country in my family. I think that gives us a little bit different way of looking at things, because one of the things that always has happened is that when immigrants came to this country they always looked not to themselves but what could they do for the next generation. I think that's an important thing for this body to remember to do. Let's look what's best for the next generation. Let's make sure that those tools, such as education, are there to make for a better quality of life next time. This doesn't mean that we just tax our people to death. In fact, I think we have to look at this very carefully, and this is one of the things that we need to preserve. These are difficult times. You know, I think we, particularly we new senators, should feel very honored that the people have sent us here to try and solve this crisis. Throughout the history of not only this state, but of the whole country, that if you look back at what presidents we remember,