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they look right now. We think we're going to make some short-term gain? My feeling is, that won't happen. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Friend. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: I'm live. Yeah, it's shocking. Mr. President, members of the body, we...the Legislature, this body, to me, have, besides doing what Senator Brashear did and what Senator Beutler...to me, they're kind of fees, or pay...Senator Brashear's, we don't pay it now, we pay it later; Brashear's...or Senator Beutler's was, raise fees. The other two options we have is sales tax and income tax. And I guess my contention has always been that the sales tax is more regressive, is more regressive. We have, in comparison to the other states around us, the highest income tax...I mean the highest sales tax, at 5.5 percent. Colorado has a sales tax of 2.9; Iowa has 5 percent; Kansas has 5.3; Missouri has 4.25; and South Dakota has 4 percent; and Wyoming has 4 percent. So as far as...we're always...with the income tax, we say, well, you know, we're going to be higher than someone else. What my...if we...do we need 33? I suppose we do, Senator Mines. We probably do. (Laugh) Hope so. Is, we're simply...I'm putting it into the rainy day fund, as Senator Warner used to say. It goes into the Cash Reserve Fund. And I think this morning the good gentleman, my neighbor to the south that is the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee said, there are three proposals. At that time, there was three proposals: Senator Beutler's proposal, Senator Brashear's...or he said there were four: Senator Beutler's, Senator Brashear's, and my proposal, and the other one was "d;" "a," "b," "c," "d." And I think Senator Wehrbein said we should not do "d." It kind of counteract what Senator Quandahl does. And maybe I should not care (laugh) because I'm not going to be here next year. But to me, is that I am...in 1997, we lowered the income tax 4.4 percent. We permanently raised it last year, half-way up. This one goes a little extra beyond that 2.2 percent, because my goal was that I thought we had to fill in, when I started this proposal, is that we needed \$50 million to take care of when we didn't move from \$1.05 to \$1.10. That's \$50 million. That was my proposal with the income tax. I think it's the fairest tax that we have. And