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all seriously and will offer an opportunity to do something that accords with your stated principles, you vote against it because you are not acting on principle. You're acting on the basis of political expediency. You voted against a reduction in taxes. Why do I say you're not acting on principle but rather political expediency? Everybody on this floor who knows anything about how a government is to be funded understands that the way the government raises revenue is through taxation. For people, when they run for office, to say they will be against any tax increase is all right, because you don't expect a babe in the womb to know anything, although if Senator Foley has his way, we're going to have a bill that says you have to give them...you know, preschool before you go to kindergarten? You're going to have to put fetuses into prebirth school, prebirth school so they'll know something when they come into the world. Well, you don't expect fledgling politicians to understand much about the realities of government, but those who have been here for any period of time know that raising taxes as the cost of government increases is the legitimate way for the government to fund its operations. And if we were going to be the paragons of leadership that we lyingly tell people when we run for office that we're going to be, we would not go out there and tell them that government can run efficiently and it can operate at the same level on less money or the same amount of money when, in order to provide the same services, more money is charged. If the Legislature would undertake, or any governmental body would undertake, to enact a law which says that any goods and services purchased by the government cannot increase in price, then we could tell the public we're going to continue operate...to operate at the level we are now. But since those who sell goods and services to the government can and do raise their prices, if the government is going to operate at the same level it did the previous year, it will cost more money because the goods and services cost more money. Children recognize that when they go to the candy store. If the price on the box is the same, the weight of the contents has been reduced. The profit margin is always going to be at least at a certain level, and the seller is going to increase it to the extent he or she thinks can be done; in other words, all the traffic will bear. And you all know that in the wider world. But to pretend at the heart of the society, which is its government, that things can be done in