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recent years and it's going to continue to drive it until we face it and solve it. Quick snapshot, 20 years ago annual spending on K-12 education, local plus state, was about \$600 million. Today we have the same number of students that we had 20 years ago and we spend nearly \$2 billion annually on K-12 education. That is double the inflation rate over that same period. If we had tracked the inflation rate, we'd be spending about \$1.2 billion. We're up to nearly \$2 billion a year. The state aid has grown at nearly three times the inflation rate. Now we've squashed it down for a couple of years and we're playing games with the levy lid, the seesaw policy. The lid goes up, state aid goes down. But even if we do the \$1.05 in this bill right now, even if we do the \$1.05, that creates an annual growth rate in state aid of 7 percent to 8 percent. Can somebody tell me how we're going to pay for that? I asked that question in the Education Committee. I didn't get an answer. Well, I did get an answer. One senator on the Education Committee offered a response to that question. He said he would raise sales or income taxes to whatever degree necessary to cover this 7 or 8 percent annual growth to which we're going to commit ourselves. Actually, in fact, this senator offered a bill this year to raise sales and income, maybe it was both, maybe it was one or the other, I can't remember, but to raise state taxes enough to put several hundred million more dollars into state aid right now, basically to replace money that K-12 has not been getting in recent years, but has...but was promised under the formula. Otherwise, I've not received an answer to that question, and that includes from the Governor's Office. If this is the answer, how do we pay for it? That's a growth rate that's about three times the inflation rate. It's higher than the most optimistic revenue growth projections that I've seen. I haven't heard the answer yet for how we pay for this. I voted in committee against that bill that would have raised the state tax rates and pumped several hundred million dollars into state aid right away because of our fiscal condition. But in principle, that senator was right. If we're going to have a funding formula, then let's fund it. In fact, actually I'd challenge anyone, anyone who says the system is fine, the system doesn't need changing. And then, fine, let's let the system do what it's supposed to do; let's let the lid go back to \$1.00 like it's supposed to do. Let's let the state aid formula work