

make up our minds as to when these types of things, or what atmospheres, what circumstances really require us to move from the ordinary processes, which are ordinarily quite adequate, to such a move as this. And in my mind, the dividing line for me is when the time comes to raise sales and income taxes, which are our basic funding sources. And I don't know about you, but tension goes all the way up to my ears when I get in a situation when that's the question, and the only other time we've ever done this was in 1985, and at that point in time, it was very clear that it was highly probable, in fact almost absolute, it would have been absolute necessary, an absolute necessity to raise either the sales or income taxes, or a combination thereof, in order to accommodate the budget unless it went back and was reduced. That is not the situation today. We are crying out with this false sentence of crisis, and there is no crisis. We can do this Appropriation Committees budget as they well know and as they structured it to be within the sales and income tax revenues that we have, and I perceive no reason for the extraordinary process that is being suggested today. I heard it said, well, the local property people, they have to stay within a tighter budget than we are. Well, one, I don't think that is true, but, secondly, if we want to keep our budget down, then we shouldn't be helping them with their budget, should we? I mean here is Senator Jensen's list, you just pick out one bill after another, LB 646, a million dollars. Our budget, our blame, but it doesn't help state government, it goes out to the locals to help them fund indigent defense. Now is that...should that be a part of their increase or should that be a part of our budget increase. I mean they spent the money really. We appropriated it. We transferred it. They spend it. Now I think the comparison doesn't make much sense, and if it did make sense, I would say the comparison ought to be that each of the governmental units, the state government and the local governments, they each ought to pay attention not to increase their basic funding sources. And we ought not to increase sales and income taxes unless there is a really good reason to do so, and they ought not to increase property taxes unless there is a real good reason to do so. We are not raising sales and income taxes. We are not in a crisis situation. We are in a usual situation. The usual processes should pertain. The Appropriations Committee has been open to additional suggestions. We ought to make them through floor amendment as we always do. I think that's all that I wanted to say except for one final point, and that is to remind you all that this, in my opinion, is the most responsible legislative body fiscally...