

to 20 vote the Legislature decided that we were going to make it a very black and white issue and that black and white issue is do you have a tax increase which will occur if the Legislature does nothing or do you follow the proposal by the Governor, essentially follow it, and thereby prevent a tax increase, at least according to the assurances of the Governor. We are back today to make that decision one way or another and I would just urge the body that it is that simple and that black and white. We are not as individuals probably in the best position to know what all the facts are, what all the information is. Only one man in this state is in that position and that is the Governor of the State who does have his experts, who does have the information, who has access to it on a more complete and total basis than any of us and it is under the Constitution that the Governor using authority given only to him has called us in here, given us a specific proposal, and give us specific assurances and promises as to what that proposal will do for us and for the state. I believe we are in the position of the individual who has to take the word and the assurances of the Governor at this point or discount them and make our decision on this bill, and certainly I can see there may need to be some minor tampering here but I think we should try to prevent any major tampering. There are at least ten or fifteen things in that bill that I disagree with personally. I don't like to see the vet school delayed and risked. I don't like to see some of the alcohol programs dismantled or destroyed or impaired. At the same time, as I say, if I start taking those parts out or any other member does, I think the whole thing comes apart and we are back in a confusion. It is my understanding that there is one other major proposal at least. The Appropriations Committee Chairman has an alternate proposal that would involve increasing the taxes, and as I say, I think that is what we are here for, black and white issue of whether we follow Plan A, the Governor's plan which at least theoretically is going to prevent a tax increase, or some alternate plan. I personally am going to be supporting the proposal offered by the Governor for the very reasons I stated, that the Legislature determine to narrow it to an up or down issue and hopefully the Governor will be right, hopefully there won't be tax increases next year, hopefully everything will go as he and his top experts project. I personally have strong reservations about the strength of the economy in this state and what is going to happen next year and I personally believe without all the experts' information, I personally believe that next year what we do here may be very moot and not that significant because I think things are going to happen to such a degree that we are going to have to take some very dramatic measures next