

certain date in 1989. The letter that was sent out, I would like to bring to your attention and to read to you a little bit of it. It says that "The legislation has been advanced in this form with the understanding on the part of the Revenue Committee and among all of the principals whose signatures appear below that this rate structure will remain intact until the 1989 Legislative Session. No attempts will be made to alter or circumvent the terms of this agreement either directly or indirectly by the parties involved. We, the undersigned...", and so forth. I counted up and at least there are 5 members of the Revenue Committee that signed this letter. One member was a fairly smart member and you must have used invisible ink because I can't make out the signature. Now I will tell you, yes, Senator Johnson, you are fairly smart, but I will tell you I could introduce a bill next year to raise the taxes and I know I might as well, when I introduce it I might as well figure on getting 30 votes because it is going to be automatically killed in the committee. Now I would suggest to you that if we did that in every committee in here, we could probably every other year not even have any committees. What would happen if the Judiciary Committee would make an agreement with all the lobbyists involved, and I guess I am also a little offended with the lobbyists' signatures on here, that we are not going to raise the crime or the penalties for any crimes at all for X number of years or court laws or court decisions, or whatever? I think we would all be offended by that if the majority of the Judiciary Committee would sign such a letter or if the Education Committee would get all the education lobbyists together and say, we are not going to do anything about any of the standards for education or any of the state aid formulas or anything for five years and we are all going to sign our little X in blood that this is what is going to happen. Maybe the previous Revenue Committees have done this. I have no idea. I have never served on the Revenue Committee. But all I am telling you is that I think it is a terrible precedent that we are continuing. Maybe it had been set some time in the past but I just want the body to know that as one member of this Legislature who is not on that committee and who does not serve on committees that are asked to sign such oaths, I am personally offended and I think it is a disgrace for this Legislature to knuckle under, if you will, to those folks back of the glass doors in that fashion. I guess I would like to ask Senator Johnson a question, if he is going to do the same courtesy to the...