

The amendment has one other very important half, and please listen because it is kind of important because the League of Municipalities and those people that are very concerned about the property taxes are accepting it. The University is accepting it, and so on. The other half of the amendment is this, state employees would not receive their salary increase come July 1. It would be delayed until January 1, but it would be 4 percent instead of 3 percent. Now internally, obviously, they are going to have to make some cuts, and they are going to have to juggle some people, and maybe even not hire some new people that they would otherwise. The total amount, instead of being \$14 million, as it is under 2 percent, would be 12, \$12.5 million, so you are within a million either way of the 2 percent. The state employees, public employees, University employees would have their incentive. No, it is not a \$30 million cut. If the Governor thought he wanted to figure out a way to get another \$10 million, have at it. I don't think it is possible. I don't think it is realistically possible, but if he wanted to try, let him try. I think the state employees would be satisfied. We would have cut 20, \$22 million over what we were. I guess I think that we would not probably need a tax increase, or if we did, well, we wouldn't really need one if you wanted to cut that down to 3 percent, 3.5 percent maybe, but just an idea. I'll throw it out. If you want to do this rather than a 2 percent, it is another variable. The important thing about this particular variable is it is a variable that would be satisfactory to most of the people that are on the other end of this from the University, to local government, to various other entities. So I am going to suggest that this be a kind of the middle of the road thing. It isn't the \$30 million. As I say, if the Governor has a brilliant way he figures he can get another \$10 million, let him. I don't think it is possible, reasonably. But I think it is maybe the last chance to do something that is kind of satisfactory to a lot of people on the other side of the spectrum, the ones that are being affected. So I'm going to ask you to support this amendment. If it doesn't go, obviously, then let's vote on the two percent.

PRESIDENT: I want to go down through some lights here that are still on. We are now on the DeCamp amendment to the main amendment. Senator Remmers, I have your light on to speak. Okay. Senator Vickers.