

bracket this till Tuesday will essentially kill the bill. We understand the situation. We have only seven days left. We use up this day, the next three days this week and then I think we are going to meet Monday and Tuesday. We are essentially down to just three or four days to pass this legislation and with the volatility of the floor debate and the different issues we are essentially killing the bill. To have a bill on General File at that late date finally come up is almost impossible to pass. So I am suggesting to you whether you like it or not, whether you want to or not, you need to move the bill over to Select File to be in a position if we get to that point to deal with the issue of adjusting the tax rates. I don't think we are sending any message back to the public whatsoever other than the fact that we are ready to take what action is necessary to balance the budget. Ultimately, the question is that, how do we balance the budget? As we talk in our efforts later this afternoon to cut the budget further, we are all going to seek that worthy goal of trying to reduce expenditures. But if we should fail in that effort and that is a possibility, we all recognize it is there, to then not have a vehicle to adjust the tax rates to responsibility balance our budget is the sort of irresponsible thing that goes on back in Washington and I think that is not something we want to repeat here and, frankly, we can't repeat here. We are in a situation where we are under constitutional restrictions and we have to balance the budget. And so I suggest to you that you make no commitments whatsoever on the measure. You can vote for or against the committee amendment, it doesn't matter, but in whatever form it takes, LB 539 ought not to be bracketed to next Tuesday. It ought to be advanced to Select File and then held there until we further debate the budget bills and take final action. From Select File it is a much easier move to take action to advance to Final Reading and then ultimately to passage. I wouldn't mind, for instance, advancing it to Select File and then bracketing it till Tuesday. I wouldn't have any problem with that, but don't leave it on General File and bracket it or you kill it. That is what it is. The motion to bracket it at this point is essentially a kill motion. Reject it and don't get yourself into a corner. Don't box yourself in without an option that may have to be the only one we can use and have no time left to deal with it.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rogers, please.