

adverse impact upon state government and our revenues. I know I commend the Appropriations Committee. We're below last year's budget. I think that is highly commendable. If I knew what to do otherwise I would certainly do it, but I don't think I want to go back and tell the people in my district...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...I'm going to go for any other kind of a tax increase. We have taken a look at all of those increases that have come out of the Revenue Committee, many of them we've adopted, the bank tax is still in limbo, wherever it's at. If there is anything else we can look at that is reasonable I am willing to look at it, but I want to hold the line on both the sales tax and the income tax and I'm ready to vote on the bill.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Now the next name I have and I'm on my original motion list again. Senator Lamb, do you wish an opportunity to speak?

SENATOR LAMB: Yes. Mr. President, members, I wanted...is Senator Withem available?

PRESIDENT: Senator Withem. There he is.

SENATOR LAMB: I wanted to see if I heard correctly. Did you say that I wanted to raise taxes, Senator Withem? Did you say I wanted to raise the tax rate?

SENATOR WITHEM: I don't believe I said you wanted to raise the tax rate. I said if we passed this motion it will not happen and we will have proven your prediction wrong, that the Legislature would never cut or not raise taxes.

SENATOR LAMB: Well I just wanted to clear the record because as I heard it you were saying that I want to raise the tax rate and I certainly don't want to raise the tax rate. The only argument here is what method do we use to get the budget down far enough so that we don't have to raise the tax rate. I don't want to raise the tax rate, you don't want to raise the tax rate, the Governor doesn't want to raise the tax rate, but you know, I just still have those problems about an across the board two percent and I'll probably always have them, and I voted for those in the past