

claiming how fiscally conservative and how opposed to spending. It would also seem to appear that if these groups are so incredibly powerless, they have the power, if nothing else, to almost bring the entire Legislature to a halt. I haven't seen the bankers able to do that. I haven't seen any group in the fifteen years I have been here able to make a believable and legitimate threat that they are going to stop state government unless they get their particular thing. Now if those are the weaklings, if those are the powerless ones, I fear what they would be given additional financing and power. They have done good work. I think there has been a lot of disagreement as to some of the expenditures and maybe some of the government involvement, but I would submit to you that they now have the opportunity to do on their own, since they have already been formed, they know who they are, they have been working together, they have on their own the opportunity to do that which the taxpayer gave them the seed money to finance for the last 7, 10, 15, 21 years, in some cases. If the bill should by per chance happen to get brought back, I, as one individual, have no intention under any circumstances of voting to extend the session and I hope others are of that same frame of mind. We cast a course. We followed it diligently. That course was to make a certain quantity of cuts, painful as they might be, targeted cuts, to prevent a tax rate increase and that is what is ready for the taking in the next 30 or 40 minutes if you read the bill. If you do amend it or if it fails to pass by 33, then let the blood and the problems be on the hands of those that created those very conditions. I think the bill should be read and passed with 33 votes, and I think those particularly who claimed repeatedly that they wanted no tax rate increase and they did want to do the cuts have the obligation now to put their votes where their mouths have been repeatedly and that is not to return the bill, to allow it to be read, proceed on with the balance of the bills. I urge you not to return the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Morehead, did you wish to speak again even though you had part of the opening?

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Yes, please, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: The issue before us has...or the scenario