

tax base expansion. We can do budget cutting and I am going to recommend some cuts but even when that is all said and done, we still have to do a rate change or a base expansion.

SENATOR LANDIS: Senator Warner, on the Haberman amendment, followed by Senator Schmit.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I had an amendment to also strike Section 6 because I am of the opinion that the two substantive matters ought not be in the same bill. However, I am very willing to have that issue decided on Select File. There is another bill that sits on Select File that was a rate bill carried over from last year. I think it would be appropriate to use that vehicle when we get to Select File to do whatever, if anything, is going to be done with the tax rate, whichever tax that it may be. But as far as today it doesn't...I guess it doesn't bother me to leave that tax rate in, but I most certainly do not believe when we get down to the point as to whether or not a tax rate is to be adjusted then I think that should be in a bill all by itself and not along with other substantive issues which are also important but also controversial.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Schmit, followed by Senator Withem.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I support the Haberman amendment. I agree with Senator Warner. I believe that the issue ought to be clear. I believe there are plenty of us here who believe that the issue has not been determined. I have not yet acclimated myself to the idea that there will be a rate increase. I believe that to pussyfoot into it in this manner is an ignoble act. I don't think we should do it that way. What we do in rate change, it ought to be up front, it ought to be something which we all recognize and there are members of the body who are not on the floor here at the present time that are going to be shocked beyond belief when they find out that what we have done if we were to advance this bill without the removal of the section which Senator Haberman attempts to remove. I would like to call attention while I am on the floor also to this other fact and that is that the additions that we have made to the budget have not in themselves been substantial. The principal problem lies within the original budget itself and, of course, to a greater extent to the income that we can project for the forthcoming year. In all honesty, that income is not going to be as substantial as some