

irritate anybody any longer and I'll sit down. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson, please, then Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I recommend that this body adopt Senator Landis's amendment. My personal preference is for the income tax rate to be maintained at 20 percent. I can argue that at great length, and I may choose to do that. But I also have talked to a number of members here who believe, for reasons of their own, that an increase in the sales tax is the preferable way to go. Now we've got five hours, in effect, to put a tax bill into the right shape. I think what Senator Landis is offering is the kind of shape that probably a majority of senators, at least at this juncture, tend to approve. My suggestion would be that you adopt his amendment relatively quickly and then you can argue out the policy behind this bill before you make your final decision to advance it to Final Reading, if that be your decision, but to at least allow the amendment to go on. The amendment does what Senator Warner would do, increase the sales tax a half a cent, from January 1, 1987, I believe to the indefinite future. That is what Senator Landis does. It doesn't do the one thing that Senator Warner wanted done which was to remove that little cap that has been placed for a half a year because of this increase on the allocation of dollars to the Highway Trust Fund from the sales taxes on motor vehicles. But again we are making a policy decision on that one. I think it is a correct policy decision. I simply say abide by that policy decision, allow Senator Landis's amendment to carry, and then go and discuss the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator DeCamp, please.

SENATOR DECAMP: Question.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is, shall debate cease? Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. You are voting to cease debate. Please vote so we can move along. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Debate has ceased. Senator Landis, would you like to close, please.