

tax rates in order to fund that budget. And that was based on the statutory authorization.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, again I say I know what Senator...and I recognized this earlier, he has got to plow through this and plod through it, but can't you see what is being done to this Legislature by the Governor and the Attorney General? Let's not attribute an evil motive to anybody. If I were a judge, which I am not, and a case were brought to me where the Legislature went ahead and raised the income tax after having gone through what we are going through, all I would have to say is that this is a stratagem and a trick by the Legislature because they had the power with the money that could be cut from programs to cut enough money to avoid having to raise the income tax, so that doesn't wash. I don't even know why the Attorney General would say such a thing. Either the Legislature has the authority to consider an issue, or it doesn't. There can't be conditions and provisos attached. So if the Legislature during this call can consider raising the income tax, then we can consider it. If it is outside the call, none of this posturing can bring it within the call. So what the Attorney General has said really is that it is an issue that I don't have an answer for, so I am giving it back to you and telling you that as a Legislature and the policymaking body of the state, you have got to make a determination about how you are going to grapple with this situation. There is nothing that says we have to consider everything that the Governor offers. I don't believe we are required to do that. But if a majority feels that is the case, then what we can do is just bring up each issue and vote it down, then deal with something one way or the other that offers a solution to the problem. I don't think there is a soul in this body who feels that after this blue sheet has been gone through the problem is going to be solved to everybody's satisfaction. We are going to have to at least consider raising some revenue. We haven't gotten to that and everybody apparently is pussyfooting around the issue trying to figure how to satisfy the Governor and the Attorney General and I don't think they have to be satisfied. The Governor did all he could do. He shot his wad when he made the call and filed the papers and we came here. The Attorney General did all he could do when he said, the potato is too hot for me to hold and I am giving it back to the Legislature. Now we are all adults responsible for our actions and I think we ought