

this floor knows who has been even slightly attentive for the last several hours, the question is, when is the "sine die" motion going to be made and who is going to make it and how many times is it going to be made and what is going to happen? I guess I'm convinced that about three points need to be made. Number one, I am ready to accept the fact that despite the fact, despite the fact that I believe this Legislature and this state are in violation of the Constitution by not being allowed to deal with the sales and income tax, in other words, matching budget expenditures with income, but I'm not going to get anything done about it.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Excuse me. The call is raised.

SENATOR DECAMP: So what I would like to do would be to lay out the arguments very briefly on that issue and then make a point that we should either advance the bill now or sine die and not be wavering between the two for the next 24 hours. I think it is time to bring it to a head and so, if you would look at the handout I handed out, I would like you to be aware of your duty, our duty, my duty and establish very clearly that you do have a responsibility to deal with the entire picture. In other words, constitutionally you have a duty here to deal with the tax rates. If you'll read Exhibit 1, it's the Constitution of the state. It says you can't run a deficit budget, you can't run a deficit operation like the federal government. You all know that. There it is from the Constitution. Exhibit 2, says it's you, not the Governor, not somebody else, it is you, the Legislature that is supposed to raise the revenue of this state and make your budget balance. Unlike Washington, you can't have deficits. It is real simple. You don't have to be too bright to read it. It just says, you got the job. Exhibit 3, again, real simple, it's the way you decided to do the job, the way you decided to balance the budget. It used to be you had a Board of Equalization. The Board of Equalization, year round, had an automatic authority and responsibility to keep the tax rates to where you balance the budget. Upon the request of the Governor we changed that system. The Governor said, I want the Legislature to be responsible for raising taxes or lowering taxes because they are the ones that do the spending. In response to the Governor's request and the Governor's bill we, the Legislature, changed the system and accepted the responsibility and there is the law that did it two years ago. What does that say? It says you've got to have enough money based upon your expenditures for the next two fiscal years, you've got to have a flow of money coming in. Based upon the