

are built into the system and become long term revenue generators and I'm not, at this point, willing to go down that path. And so, at this point, my light is going to be red most of the day here today because I just don't like the path that we have been asked to walk down and, hopefully, a better idea or better solutions will be offered as this debate continues today.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Johnson. The next speaker is Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President. Members, the issue has moved away, I guess, a little bit from the motor vehicle fee schedule, which is fine, because probably we should talk a little bit about what we're going to before everybody's attention, I guess, withers farther, talk about what the options are here. Senator Warner, I think, clearly laid out a number of issues that need to be addressed here today and probably will be from time to time. But, really, you have two options. Senator Johnson said, I don't like any of them. And that clearly is an option, that clearly is an option. What happens when the Legislature doesn't do anything on this? Two things will probably happen, one, budgets will be cut at the local level, and, two, property taxes will go up, real property taxes will go up, because that \$90 million loss of revenue base in the form of the personal property tax that the Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional is not going to, I guess, remanifest itself some way in any form other than reduction in spending and increased property taxes, real property taxes at the local level. The Legislature does not have to act, that's absolutely right, that's true. That is clearly a policy decision that we have to make here today. And the other options are options like the proposal in front of us, either LB 829 that was introduced, the Governor's proposal as it is in front of us, other amendments that have been placed on the desk. They need to all be looked and examined. To say that we have abdicated our responsibility in terms of taxation, I think, is ridiculous. If you would carry that argument to the fullest extreme, you would lock the door in back and you would not listen to a word at a public hearing. As a matter of fact, you would do away with public hearings and you would never respond to constituent calls or letters. You would just operate in a vacuum irrespective of what goes on in the world outside. That is not what's going to happen here. That's not what's going to happen in the real world and, for my purposes, that's not what is going to happen in the next seven to eight months when the 3-R Committee meets