

legitimately available to us. You know, I don't like singling out one class of taxpayer any better than anybody else. There are some people on this floor who would argue we shouldn't have a fertilizer tax. Well, if there's going to be an attempt to take away the fertilizer tax, you're going to have to have some source of revenue to even negotiate on that point. If you're not willing to raise some revenue somewhere else, you're not going to be able to cut a tax on something like that. So I think it only makes sense that we go ahead and advance LB 22 and try and see what our package is going to look like, see what type of money we're going to have to spend. You know, when you're in your own home you determine how much money you have to spend, and then you decide to go out, whether or not you want to spend it, and how you want to spend it. I think it makes good sense for us to look at our budget, look at the things we want to fund, look at the cuts that we've made, look at the cuts that we can live with, look at the cuts that we can't live with, and figure out we've got to have some money to do that. I think it makes sense to see how much money, through the revenue raising package, that we're going to have. You know, the hospitals aren't going to like the tax increases. The pop tax is probably not a very popular thing to do. The cigarette tax isn't going to be very popular, but it's the only way we're going to raise some revenue and get some additional funds into the state coffers so that we can spend the money and do some of the things that we need to do. And it's as important to every member on the floor of this Legislature that state government provide the services that the people have been expecting, and that they demand, and that they want, and we have an obligation to provide. And we have a responsibility to raise the revenue to do it. And that's probably the most difficult thing we have to do, as legislators, is raise revenue. We're making...the license fees are going up. We spent a considerable amount of time on that last night. It's not going to make us very popular when people go in to get new licenses, to have their fees go up from 10 to \$15. They're going to say, well look, you're big spenders again. But if you're going to fund state government you have to either do it that way and find specific sources of revenue to fund those types of activities, or you have to do a general tax increase. And I again will tell you, and I think you all know on this floor that a general sales or income tax increase is not going to happen this year, and probably...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.