

FLORIDA TAXATION AND BUDGET REFORM COMMISSION

IN RE: COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: JANUARY 11, 2008

TIME: COMMENCED AT 1:45 P.M.
CONCLUDED AT 2:15 P.M.

LOCATION: KNOTT BLDG., ROOM 412
TALLAHASSEE, FL

REPORTED BY: LISA D. FREEZE, RPR
NOTARY PUBLIC

ACCURATE STENOTYPE REPORTERS, INC
2894 REMINGTON GREEN LANE
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32308 (850)878-2221

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MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

HOYT "BARNEY" BARNETT
MARTHA W. BARNETT
ALLAN BENSE
R. MARK BOSTICK
TALBOT "SANDY" D'ALEMBERTE
MIKE HARIDOPOLOS
MIKE HOGAN
JULIA JOHNSON
BRUCE KYLE
CARLOS LACASA
PATRICIA LEVESQUE
ALAN LEVINE
GWEN MARGOLIS
ROBERTO "BOBBY" MARTINEZ
JACINTHA MATHIS
JOHN M. MCKAY
ROBERT "BOB" MCKEE
LESLEY J. "LES" MILLER, JR.
RANDY MILLER
JADE THOMAS MOORE
FRANK PETERMAN
NANCY J. RILEY
DARRYL E. ROUSON
RAY SANSOM
JAMES "JIM" A. SCOTT
SUSAN STORY
WILLIAM GREGORY "GREG" TURBEVILLE
KENNETH "KEN" WILKINSON
BRIAN YABLONSKI

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 * * *

3 CHAIRMAN BENSE: OKAY. MEMBERS, SIT DOWN AND
4 WE'LL GET STARTED HERE. SURE SEEMS LOUD. THIS
5 MICROPHONE SEEMS LOUD, OR IS IT ME?

6 WELL, FIRST OF ALL, HAPPY NEW YEAR'S.
7 GOOD TO SEE EVERYONE'S SMILING FACE. EVEN YOU,
8 RANDY MILLER. NO, I'M KIDDING. I'M KIDDING.
9 I GOT TO GIVE YOU A HARD TIME.

10 MEETING'S CALLED TO ORDER. NANCY, PLEASE
11 CALL THE ROLL.

12 MS. FRIER: OKAY. COMMISSIONER BARNEY
13 BARNETT.

14 MR. BARNETT: HERE.

15 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER MARTHA BARNETT.

16 MS. BARNETT: HERE.

17 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER BOSTICK.
18 (NO RESPONSE.)
19 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER D'ALEMBERTE.
20 MR. D'ALEMBERTE: HERE.
21 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER HARIDOPOLOS.
22 (NO RESPONSE.)
23 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER HOGAN.
24 (NO RESPONSE.)
25 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER JOHNSON.

4

1 MS. JOHNSON: HERE.
2 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER KYLE.
3 (NO RESPONSE.)
4 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER LACASA.
5 MR. LACASA: HERE.
6 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER LEVESQUE.
7 MS. LEVESQUE: HERE.
8 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER LEVINE.
9 MR. LEVINE: HERE.
10 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER MARGOLIS.
11 (NO RESPONSE.)
12 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ.
13 MR. MARTINEZ: HERE.

14 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER MATHIS.
15 MS. MATHIS: HERE.
16 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER MCKAY.
17 (NO RESPONSE.)
18 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER MCKEE.
19 MR. MCKEE: HERE.
20 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER LES MILLER.
21 MR. LES MILLER: HERE.
22 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER RANDY MILLER.
23 MR. RANDY MILLER: HERE.
24 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER MOORE.
25 (NO RESPONSE.)

5

1 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER PETERMAN.
2 (NO RESPONSE.)
3 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER RILEY.
4 (NO RESPONSE.)
5 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER ROUSON.
6 (NO RESPONSE.)
7 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER SANSOM.
8 (NO RESPONSE.)
9 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER STORY.
10 MS. STORY: HERE.

11 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER TURBEVILLE.
12 MR. TURBEVILLE: HERE.
13 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER WILKINSON.
14 (NO RESPONSE.)
15 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER YABLONSKI.
16 MR. YABLONSKI: HERE.
17 MS. FRIER: VICE CHAIR SCOTT.
18 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: HERE.
19 MS. FRIER: CHAIR BENSE.
20 CHAIRMAN BENSE: HERE.
21 MS. FRIER: YOU HAVE A QUORUM.
22 CHAIRMAN BENSE: COMMISSIONER ROUSON IS HERE
23 AS WELL, FOR THE RECORDS.
24 OKAY, MEMBERS, FIRST OF ALL, JUST A
25 REMINDER THAT WHEN YOU SPEAK, PLEASE BE SURE TO

6

1 TURN YOUR MICROPHONE ON. I THINK WE'VE GOT
2 THAT PROCESS DOWN. FOLKS THAT ARE WATCHING ON
3 THE -- ON THE TELEVISION CANNOT HEAR US IF WE
4 DON'T HAVE OUR MICS ON.
5 IS THERE ANYONE ATTENDING BY TELEPHONE?
6 (NO RESPONSE.)
7 OKAY. ALSO, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR

8 ATTENDING MEETINGS YESTERDAY, TODAY. I KNOW AS
9 WE SAID EARLIER THE PACE IS GOING TO PICK UP A
10 LITTLE BIT.

11 AND JUST AS A SORT OF A PIECE OF ADVICE TO
12 MEMBERS, SUSAN SKELTON AND I WERE TALKING ABOUT
13 THIS THE LAST COUPLE DAYS. WE HAVE A LOT OF
14 PROPOSALS OUT THERE TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION.
15 AND JUST A REMINDER THAT THE -- IT'S MUCH LESS
16 OF A STEEP MOUNTAIN TO MAKE STATUTORY
17 RECOMMENDATIONS THAN IT IS TO AMEND THE
18 CONSTITUTION.

19 SO IF YOU, YOU KNOW, NOT -- IN ADDITION TO
20 GIVING 17 VOTES ON THE COMMISSION, I WAS
21 TALKING TO SOMEONE EARLIER THIS WEEK. JUST THE
22 60 PERCENT THRESHOLD THAT IT TAKES TO PASS A
23 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, I THINK IT'S GOING TO
24 BE VERY DIFFICULT TO PASS ANY CONTENTIOUS
25 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TODAY, JUST BECAUSE 60

7

1 PERCENT IS A VERY DEEP THRESHOLD.

2 SO IF YOU THINK THAT YOUR -- THE ISSUE
3 THAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU MIGHT BE EASIER
4 ACCOMPLISHED BY STATUTORY REMEDIES, THEN JUST A

5 WORD OF ADVICE: YOU MIGHT WANT TO TAKE A LOOK
6 AT THAT.

7 I'M NOT TRYING TO KILL ANY PROPOSALS OUT
8 THERE. I'M JUST SAYING YOU MIGHT WANT TO KEEP
9 THAT IN THE BACK OF YOUR MIND.

10 ANY COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS ON THAT?

11 (NO RESPONSE.)

12 LET'S HAVE SOME REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.
13 CHAIRMAN STORY, IF YOU WOULD GIVE US A REPORT
14 OF THE F AND T COMMITTEE.

15 MS. STORY: THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. WE DID
16 MEET YESTERDAY. AT THE COMMITTEE MEETING
17 YESTERDAY, THE FINANCE AND TAX COMMITTEE PASSED
18 UNANIMOUSLY OUT OF OUR COMMITTEE THE TECHNICAL
19 AMENDMENT THE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTED FOR THE
20 CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL BY COMMISSIONER MARGOLIS.

21 AND IT WAS ALSO A COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE TO
22 THE GOVERNMENTAL PROCEDURES AND STRUCTURE
23 COMMITTEE RELATING TO THE ASSESSED VALUE OF
24 PROPERTY WITH HURRICANE HARDENING OR ENERGY
25 EFFICIENCY. THAT WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY AS

1 WELL AS THE IMPLEMENTING LANGUAGE FOR SR0005.

2 THE TECHNICAL AMENDMENT THAT WE DID
3 APPROVE TO THAT RELATES TO BASICALLY VOIDING
4 ANY PART OF THE CONSTITUTION RELATED TO SOLAR
5 ENERGY, WHICH SUNSET BACK IN 1990, SO TO REMOVE
6 THAT SO THAT THIS COULD TAKE PLACE.

7 ADDITIONALLY, FOLLOWING THAT, WE TOOK UP
8 THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL BY COMMISSIONER
9 YABLONSKI, CP0015, CP0016 RELATED TO
10 CONSERVATION ISSUES. ONE BASICALLY EXEMPTS
11 FROM PROPERTY TAX CONSERVATION LANDS UNDER VERY
12 STRICT DEFINITIONS, BUT BASICALLY IT ALLOWS THE
13 LEGISLATURE TO DETERMINE WHAT THAT IS.

14 THE SECOND ONE WOULD DIRECT THE
15 LEGISLATURE TO LOOK AT THE CLASSIFICATION OF
16 PROPERTIES' CONSERVATION LANDS AND HOW THAT IS
17 ASSESSED. WE DID SEE THE NEED FOR BOTH OF
18 THOSE.

19 THOSE BOTH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, BUT ALSO
20 THE FINANCE AND TAX COMMITTEE VOTED UNANIMOUSLY
21 TO COSPONSOR BOTH OF THOSE PROPOSALS, SO THAT
22 WAS DONE YESTERDAY ALSO.

23 WE THEN ACTUALLY HAD A WORKSHOP WITH NO
24 VOTES ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL 0007

25 RELATED TO SALES TAX EXEMPTION REVIEW. WE HAD

9

1 PRETTY ROBUST DISCUSSION. WE TOOK PUBLIC
2 COMMENT; AND AGAIN, WE WILL CARRY THAT OVER TO
3 THE NEXT MEETING.

4 WE DID MAKE A DECISION ALSO THAT FOR THE
5 SALES TAX EXEMPTION REVIEW TOPIC, SALES TAX
6 EXCLUSION REVIEW TOPIC, WHICH BASICALLY IS
7 SERVICES TAX ISSUE AND PROPERTY TAX PROPOSALS,
8 THAT WE WOULD NOT VOTE ON ANY INDIVIDUAL
9 PROPOSALS UNTIL WE HAVE DISCUSSED ALL THREE;
10 AND WE WOULD DO THAT AT ONE MEETING ON FEBRUARY
11 THE 11TH.

12 AT OUR JANUARY 17TH AGENDA NEXT WEEK WE
13 WILL TAKE UP THE STREAMLINED SALES TAX ISSUE,
14 BOTH A CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL AS WELL AS
15 IMPLEMENTING LANGUAGE. WE WILL CARRY THAT TO A
16 VOTE. AND WE WILL ALSO BRING BACK UP THE SALES
17 TAX EXEMPTION REVIEW.

18 WE'RE WORKING ON OUR JANUARY 25TH AGENDA
19 TO INCLUDE ALL OF OUR OTHER TOPICS, INCLUDING
20 SERVICES TAX AS WELL AS WE'RE WORKING WITH
21 COMMISSIONER HOGAN, I BELIEVE, ON A

22 CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL AND/OR STATUTORY
23 RECOMMENDATION THAT WOULD BE RELATED TO -- HAVE
24 TO BE CONSTITUTIONAL IN IMPLEMENTING LANGUAGE
25 FOR SPENDING CAPS TO DEBATE.

10

1 THAT'S THE END OF MY REPORT, MR. CHAIRMAN.

2 CHAIRMAN BENSE: ANY QUESTIONS? BUSY.

3 YOU'RE GOING TO BE BUSY. ANY QUESTIONS?

4 (NO RESPONSE.)

5 OKAY. THANK YOU, CHAIRMAN STORY.

6 CHAIRMAN LEVINE OF THE GOVERNMENTAL
7 PROCEDURES AND STRUCTURE COMMITTEE. YOU'RE
8 RECOGNIZED.

9 MR. LEVINE: GOOD AFTERNOON, MEMBERS. WE HAD
10 A GOOD MEETING TODAY. WE HAD SOME GOOD LIVELY
11 DEBATE ABOUT A COUPLE OF ISSUES THAT WERE BROUGHT
12 UP.

13 FIRST WAS CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL 25 BY
14 COMMISSIONER D'ALEMBERTE. THIS BILL WOULD
15 PERMIT THE LEGISLATURE TO IMPLEMENT MEASURES
16 THAT THEY DEEM NECESSARY TO RAISE REVENUE
17 DURING FISCAL CRISES, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER
18 PROVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION. OBVIOUSLY, IT'S

19 A BIT CONTROVERSIAL. IT WAS AMENDED IN
20 COMMITTEE. IT WAS NOT PASSED; IT WAS
21 TEMPORARILY POSTPONED. I THINK THEY FELT THAT
22 IT NEEDED A LITTLE BIT MORE WORK.

23 THE AMENDMENT THAT WAS PUT ONTO THE BILL,
24 WHILE THE LANGUAGE OF THE BILL WOULD ALLOW THE
25 GOVERNOR TO DECLARE A CRISIS, THEN THE

11

1 LEGISLATURE BY A THREE-FOURTHS' VOTE COULD
2 ESSENTIALLY WAIVE ELEMENTS OF THE CONSTITUTION
3 AND RAISE REVENUE BEYOND CONSTITUTIONAL REVENUE
4 LIMITS.

5 THE AMENDMENT THAT WAS PUT ONTO THE BILL
6 AT THE COMMITTEE WOULD ALSO ALLOW THE
7 LEGISLATURE TO CUT EXPENDITURES. IN OTHER
8 WORDS, CONSTITUTIONALLY REQUIRED SPENDING COULD
9 ALSO BE WAIVED, SO THAT THERE COULD BE BUDGET
10 CUTS IN ADDITION TO REVENUE RATE.

11 THERE WAS A LOT OF DEBATE ON THIS BILL. I
12 SUSPECT IT WILL BE DEBATED WHEN IT COMES BACK
13 FOR A VOTE. I SUSPECT IT WILL COME BACK IN A
14 COUPLE WEEKS AFTER THE SPONSOR, COMMISSIONER
15 D'ALEMBERTE, AND, I BELIEVE, STAFF WILL MEET TO

16 ADDRESS SOME OF THE ISSUES THAT WERE RAISED AT
17 THE COMMITTEE TODAY.

18 THE SECOND BILL WE CONSIDERED WAS
19 CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL 27 BY COMMISSIONER
20 HOGAN, VERY WELL DRAFTED BILL THAT CHANGES THE
21 TIMING AND INCREASES THE FREQUENCY OF THE
22 ESTABLISHMENT OF FUTURE TAX AND BUDGET REFORM
23 COMMISSIONS.

24 A LITTLE BY WAY OF HISTORY, THE
25 CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION COMMISSION EXISTED -- I

12

1 THINK GOING BACK TO THE ORIGINAL '68
2 CONSTITUTION. SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY THE TAX
3 AND BUDGET REFORM COMMISSION WAS CREATED.
4 THERE WAS SOME ISSUE BETWEEN THE TBRC AND THE
5 CRC. THE CRC EXPANDED THEIR PURVIEW A LITTLE
6 BIT TO GET INTO TAX AND BUDGET ISSUES BACK, I
7 THINK IN 1996.

8 AND THERE ARE SOME -- I THINK THE
9 DISCUSSION IS TO ADDRESS SOME THINGS THAT
10 CONFLICT CONSTITUTIONALLY BETWEEN THE TWO
11 COMMISSIONS. WHERE WE REALLY HAD THE MOST
12 DEBATE WAS HOW OFTEN THE TBRC SHOULD MEET,

13 EITHER EVERY TEN YEARS OR EVERY 20 YEARS.

14 ORIGINALLY, THE LEGISLATURE WHEN THEY
15 CREATED TBRC DID SO AND THE -- INITIALLY, THEY
16 MET EVERY TEN YEARS. THAT WAS CHANGED TO EVERY
17 20 YEARS.

18 THE DISCUSSION WE HAD THIS MORNING WAS
19 WHETHER WE SHOULD GO BACK TO EVERY TEN YEARS
20 ALTERNATIVE, OR DO EVERY 20 YEARS, ALTERNATING
21 TO THE CRC MEETINGS, SO THERE'S ALWAYS A
22 COMMISSION MEETING EVERY TEN YEARS, ONE
23 RELATIVE TO TAX AND BUDGET ISSUES, ONE RELATIVE
24 TO OTHER CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES.

25 THIS WAS ALSO TEMPORARILY POSTPONED WHILE

13

1 WE -- STAFF GOES BACK AND BRINGS SEVERAL
2 DIFFERENT VARIATIONS OF THE BILL SO THAT WE
3 COULD ACTUALLY VOTE ON WHICH ONE WE THINK MIGHT
4 BE THE BEST ALTERNATIVE.

5 WE DISCUSSED -- THERE'S THREE OR FOUR, OR
6 FIVE RATHER, FUTURE POTENTIAL -- POTENTIAL
7 COMMITTEE BILLS THAT WE'RE STILL IN THE PROCESS
8 OF GOING THROUGH THE DRAFTING PROCESS AND
9 BEFORE WE VOTE ON WHETHER OR NOT TO MAKE THEM

10 PCBS, AND WE'LL HAVE MORE ON THAT LATER.

11 SO WITH THAT, MR. CHAIRMAN, IT WAS A GOOD
12 MEETING, AND WE'LL HAVE SPIRITED DEBATE NEXT
13 WEEK, I'M SURE, WITH OUR AGENDA NEXT WEEK.

14 CHAIRMAN BENSE: ANY QUESTIONS OF CHAIRMAN
15 LEVINE?

16 (NO RESPONSE.)

17 GOOD JOB, CHAIRMAN.

18 GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE.

19 CHAIRMAN ROBERTO MARTINEZ, YOU'RE
20 RECOGNIZED.

21 MR. MARTINEZ: MR. CHAIRMAN, GOOD AFTERNOON.

22 MEMBERS, OUR COMMITTEE MET THIS AFTERNOON,
23 AND WE TOOK ACTION ON THREE DIFFERENT MATTERS.
24 WE PASSED A RECOMMENDATION, STATUTORY
25 RECOMMENDATION PROPOSED BY COMMISSIONER DARRYL

14

1 ROUSON WHICH MANDATED THE EXPANSION OF FAITH
2 AND CHARACTER-BASED PROGRAMS WITHIN THE
3 CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION -- THE CORRECTIONAL
4 FACILITIES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
5 CORRECTION.

6 AND THE MEASURE REQUIRES THE DEPARTMENT TO

7 EVALUATE FAITH AND CHARACTER-BASED PRISON
8 PROGRAMS FOR COST SAVINGS, CRIME REDUCTION, AND
9 ENHANCED PROFESSIONALISM OF EMPLOYEES, AND
10 ENCOURAGES THE LEGISLATURE TO USE THE SAVINGS
11 RESULTING FROM THOSE PROGRAMS FOR EX-OFFENDER
12 TRANSITION ASSISTANCE.

13 SO THAT WAS PASSED OUT BY THE -- BY OUR
14 COMMITTEE, AND NOW IT GOES BACK TO FURTHER
15 REVIEW BY -- I THINK IT'S THE -- WHICH ONE IS
16 IT?

17 MS. STORY: THE BUDGETING.

18 MR. MARTINEZ: WE ALSO TOOK UP TWO OTHER
19 ACTIONS. THESE WERE IN THE FORM OF COMMITTEE
20 PROPOSALS.

21 THE FIRST ONE WAS A PROPOSAL BY
22 COMMISSIONER RANDY MILLER WHICH AUTHORIZED A
23 MILLAGE INCREASE AT THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER
24 MANAGEMENT DISTRICT.

25 AND LASTLY, THE LAST OFFICIAL ACTION THAT

15

1 WE TOOK IS WE HAD AT THE PRIOR MEETING IN
2 NOVEMBER DIRECTED THE STAFF TO COME BACK TO US
3 WITH WORDING WITH REGARDS TO A MODIFICATION OF

4 THE CLASS SIZE AMENDMENT TO MAKE THE
5 REQUIREMENT MEASURED AT THE SCHOOL-WIDE AVERAGE
6 AS OPPOSED TO THE CLASSROOM LEVEL.

7 SO WE CONSIDERED TODAY A PROPOSAL THAT HAD
8 THAT WORDING, AND IT WAS PASSED OUT OF THE --
9 OUR COMMITTEE, EVERYBODY SUPPORTING IT EXCEPT
10 FOR ONE VOTE. SO NOW IT GOES TO, I GUESS,
11 LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING, AND IT WILL GET A NUMBER.
12 AND, MR. CHAIRMAN, YOU WILL SIGN IT OR WHATEVER
13 YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE.

14 WE ALSO HAD SOME PRESENTATIONS APART FROM
15 CONSIDERATION OF THOSE ACTIONS, AND WE HAD A
16 VERY GOOD PRESENTATION FROM THE SECRETARY OF
17 THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, JIM MCDONOUGH,
18 WHO HAS BEEN AN EXCELLENT GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL
19 AND HAS DONE A WONDERFUL JOB IN THAT POSITION.

20 AND SECRETARY MCDONOUGH MADE A
21 PRESENTATION -- SUMMARIZED THE PRESENTATION
22 THAT HE HAD MADE BACK TO US IN ORLANDO WITH
23 REGARDS TO RECOMMENDATIONS THAT HE HAS
24 SUGGESTED IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE RATE OF
25 RECIDIVISM WITHIN THE PRISON POPULATION.

1 AND AS A RESULT OF HIS PRESENTATION, WE
2 HAVE PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED THE STAFF DRAFTING
3 SOME LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE, COME BACK TO US
4 INCORPORATING HIS RECOMMENDATIONS. AND
5 HOPEFULLY, WE'LL HAVE THAT LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE
6 AT OUR NEXT MEETING.

7 AND WE'RE ALSO GOING TO BE INVITING FOR
8 THAT NEXT MEETING, IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED
9 WITH REGARDS TO THAT PROPOSAL, SOME PRESENTERS
10 THAT HAVE A VIEWPOINT DIFFERENT THAN SECRETARY
11 MCDONOUGH, JUST TO MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE A
12 GOOD BALANCED PRESENTATION.

13 WE DID NOT HAVE COMMISSIONER JADE MOORE
14 PRESENT AT THE MEETING. HE WAS UNABLE TO
15 ATTEND. BUT I KNOW THAT HE HAS A NUMBER OF
16 PROPOSALS THAT HE WOULD LIKE FOR US TO CONSIDER
17 IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION.

18 ONE OF THEM IS AN IDEA CALLED THE SCHOOL
19 TAX CONSOLIDATION AMENDMENT TO THE
20 CONSTITUTION. AND HE ALSO HAS SEVERAL
21 PROPOSALS DEALING WITH SOMETHING CALLED AN
22 EDUCATION ADEQUACY COMMISSION, EITHER IN THE
23 FORM OF A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT OR

24 LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE.

25 BUT THOSE WERE NOT DISCUSSED TODAY BECAUSE

17

1 JADE WASN'T PRESENT. BUT I ANTICIPATE THAT
2 THEY WILL BE BROUGHT UP AT OUR NEXT MEETING.

3 AND, MR. CHAIRMAN, THE NEXT MEETING OF OUR
4 COMMITTEE, INSTEAD OF HAVING IT NEXT WEEK,
5 WHERE THERE REALLY WOULDN'T BE THAT MUCH
6 BUSINESS THAT WE WOULD BE READY TO ACT UPON, WE
7 DECIDED TO PUT OFF OUR NEXT MEETING UNTIL THE
8 MEETING ON JANUARY 25TH, AT WHICH POINT IN TIME
9 I WILL CALL THESE MATTERS BACK FOR
10 CONSIDERATION; AND HOPEFULLY, WE'LL ALSO HEAR
11 FROM THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
12 THAT IS LOOKING AT ISSUES SUCH AS BRIGHT
13 FUTURES, THE PREPAID PROGRAM, AND THE GAMBLING
14 FUNDING. AND HOPEFULLY, THEY'LL HAVE SOME
15 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR US TO CONSIDER.

16 CHAIRMAN BENSE: GREAT. ANY QUESTIONS OF
17 CHAIRMAN MARTINEZ?

18 (NO RESPONSE.)

19 THE DEBATE IN THAT COMMITTEE, ESPECIALLY
20 ON THE CLASS SIZE ISSUE, I THINK WAS VERY

21 INFORMATIVE FOR A LOT OF MEMBERS. I HAD TWO OR
22 THREE FOLKS MENTION THAT THEY DIDN'T REALIZE
23 THE EXTENT OF THE FUNDING OF THE CLASS SIZE
24 AMENDMENT AND WHERE ALL THE DOLLARS WENT. SO I
25 THOUGHT THAT WAS A VERY GOOD DEBATE.

18

1 PLANNING AND BUDGETARY PROCESSES
2 COMMITTEE. CHAIRMAN LACASA, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED.

3 MR. LACASA: THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

4 MEMBERS, WE HAD INVITED CHIEF FINANCIAL
5 OFFICER ALEX SINK AND HER STAFF TO COME TO OUR
6 COMMITTEE TODAY AND TALK ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT
7 INVESTMENT POOL AND GENERALLY THE DIVISION AND
8 THE STATE TREASURY. UNFORTUNATELY, THEY HAD TO
9 POSTPONE, AND WE'RE HOPING TO GET THEM BACK IN
10 ABOUT TWO WEEKS.

11 AND WHEN WE DO HAVE THEM BACK, I WILL URGE
12 ALL OF YOU TO COME AND HEAR TESTIMONY ON THIS
13 PARTICULARLY COMPELLING ISSUE.

14 WE WERE ABLE TO CONSIDER TODAY CP22 BY
15 COMMISSIONER ROUSON, CONCERNING AN AMENDMENT TO
16 THE CONSTITUTION REGARDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING.
17 THE DEBATE WAS EXCELLENT AND SPIRITED. SEVERAL

18 ISSUES WERE RAISED CONCERNING LANGUAGE OF THE
19 PROPOSAL AS IT MOVES FORWARD IN THE PROCESS.

20 HAVING SAID THAT, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED
21 CP22 UNANIMOUSLY AND NOW IT MOVES ON TO THE
22 NEXT STEP.

23 WE -- WITH RESPECT TO FUTURE MEETINGS,
24 MEMBERS, WE WILL NOT BE MEETING NEXT WEEK
25 EITHER. RIGHT NOW WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO

19

1 HEARING FROM CFO'S OFFICE AND FOR FURTHER
2 REFERRALS OF PROPOSALS.

3 CHAIRMAN BENSE: ANY QUESTIONS OF CHAIRMAN
4 LACASA?

5 (NO RESPONSE.)

6 OKAY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, CHAIRMAN AND
7 MEMBERS, FOR ATTENDING THESE MEETINGS THE LAST
8 COUPLE OF DAYS.

9 NEXT LET'S MOVE ON TO THE CONSIDERATION OF
10 THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON
11 BALLOT SUMMARY ISSUES.

12 VICE CHAIRMAN SCOTT, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO
13 PRESENT SR0011.

14 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU,

15 MR. CHAIRMAN.

16 THIS IS THE COMMITTEE THAT WAS APPOINTED,
17 CHAIRMAN BENSE AND SENATORS MILLER AND MCKAY,
18 FORMER SENATORS AND ME.

19 WE'RE ALL AWARE OF THIS -- WE'VE DISCUSSED
20 THE 75-WORD LIMIT THAT DOES CURRENTLY APPLY TO
21 THIS COMMISSION AS WELL AS THE CONSTITUTION
22 REVISION COMMISSION. WHAT THIS PROPOSAL DOES
23 IS ADD THOSE TWO ENTITIES IN THE SAME STATUS AS
24 THE LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR PURPOSES OF NOT
25 HAVING A 75-WORD LIMIT.

20

1 THE HISTORY OF THIS IS IN A STAFF REPORT,
2 BUT IT CAME ABOUT ABOUT 25 YEARS AGO OR MORE
3 WHEN THE ISSUE WAS HAVING ROOM ON THE MACHINES,
4 THE VOTING MACHINES, THOSE OF YOU THAT REMEMBER
5 THAT, AND NOT HAVING ROOM FOR ALL THE PROPOSALS
6 THAT WERE ON THE MACHINE. AND SO THAT WAS THE
7 HISTORY OF IT.

8 NOW I THINK IT'S BECOME -- AND WE THINK
9 IT'S MORE IMPORTANT TO HAVE FULL DISCLOSURE,
10 REAL OPENNESS AND ACCURACY IN WHAT PEOPLE ARE
11 VOTING ON. AND SOME OF THE PROPOSALS PERHAPS

12 THAT WE'RE CONSIDERING WON'T BE ABLE TO BE
13 ACCURATELY AND OPENLY DESCRIBED WITH 75 WORDS.
14 SO THAT'S THE PROPOSAL.

15 WE'RE GOING TO SUBMIT THIS TO THE
16 LEGISLATURE. FRANKLY, WE MADE SOME INQUIRIES,
17 AND WE'RE GETTING A LUKEWARM RECEPTION IN THE
18 SENATE AND MAYBE A LITTLE BETTER IN THE HOUSE
19 SO FAR. BUT MAYBE WE HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO
20 REALLY EXPLAIN IT TO THE MEMBERS.

21 SO WE WOULD ASK THE COMMISSION TO APPROVE
22 THIS TODAY, HOPEFULLY UNANIMOUSLY, AND SEND
23 THAT OVER AND SEE IF WE CAN GET THEM TO ACT ON
24 THAT EARLY ON IN TIME FOR OUR PLACING ANY ITEMS
25 ON THE BALLOT.

21

1 CHAIRMAN BENSE: OKAY. THERE IS A --
2 COMMISSIONER -- VICE CHAIRMAN SCOTT HAS EXPLAINED
3 SR0011 BY BENSE, MCKAY, MILLER, AND SCOTT. ARE
4 THERE QUESTIONS OF THE PRESENTER? COMMISSIONER
5 BARNETT, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED FOR QUESTIONING.

6 MS. BARNETT: THANK YOU. WHAT ENTITY IS LEFT
7 THAT'S STILL SUBJECT TO THE 75-WORD LIMITATION.
8 IS IT ONLY CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION?

9 CHAIRMAN BENSE: CHAIRMAN SCOTT, YOU'RE
10 RECOGNIZED.

11 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: I'M NOT SURE IF THE
12 PETITION ITEMS ARE STILL SUBJECT TO IT. I THINK
13 THEY MIGHT BE. OTHERWISE ...

14 MS. BARNETT: PETITIONING, CONSTITUTIONAL
15 CONVENTIONS?

16 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: RIGHT.

17 CHAIRMAN BENSE: FURTHER QUESTIONS? ARE
18 THERE FURTHER QUESTIONS?

19 (NO RESPONSE.)

20 WE HAVE A GENTLEMAN THAT WOULD LIKE TO
21 SPEAK ON THE ISSUE. MR. PITTS, BRIAN PITTS,
22 YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO SPEAK ON THIS PROPOSAL.
23 THEN WE'LL GO INTO DEBATES.

24 WELCOME, MR. PITTS.

25 MR. PITTS: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I'M SO

22

1 HAPPY YOU COULD BRING THE ISSUE UP, BECAUSE J2J
2 ALSO IS A PAC. WE DO INITIATIVES.

3 WE ATTEMPTED TO DO AN ARTICLE FIVE, AND WE
4 COULD NOT FIT ALL OUR WORDS IN HERE TO DO A
5 FULL REVAMP. NOW, WE'RE GOING TO WAIT, BECAUSE

6 WE DON'T WANT TO DO IT AGAIN. WE'LL DO IT JUST
7 LIKE THE MARRIAGE AMENDMENT THAT GOT PASSED.

8 BUT THIS IS OUR PETITION. WHEN WE TRIED
9 TO DO A FULL REVAMP OF ARTICLE FIVE, WE
10 COULDN'T FIT 75 WORDS IN HERE. WE ARE WHAT YOU
11 CALL AN ORGANIZED POLITICAL COMMITTEE, WHO --
12 OF COURSE, YOU HAVE TO GO THROUGH YOUR PROCESS
13 TO BE ABLE TO DO INITIATIVE PETITIONS. YOU
14 NEED TO STRIKE THE 75 ACROSS THE BOARD, AND IT
15 SHOULD APPLY TO EVERYONE.

16 EQUAL PROTECTION ISSUES BROUGHT UP IN THE
17 SUMMARY THAT YOU HAVE, THAT'S EXACTLY RIGHT.
18 YOU GO AHEAD AND PASS THIS. I DEFINITELY,
19 PERSONALLY, WOULD CHALLENGE THAT, BECAUSE NOW
20 YOU GOT THREE OR FOUR HAVE THAT PREFERENCE; BUT
21 NOW YOU GOT TWO, THE CONVENTION AND AN ENTITY
22 LIKE I MYSELF OR FLORIDA4MARRIAGE AND OTHER
23 ENTITIES THAT DO IT, AND NOW WE STUCK WITH 75.

24 I'LL TELL YOU RIGHT NOW, ONCE THE 612 HAS
25 GOTTEN FOR THIS PETITION, THEY'RE PROBABLY

23

1 GOING TO QUESTION IT BECAUSE THE 75 WORDS DOES
2 NOT MENTION EVERYTHING THAT WE NEEDED TO DO IN

3 THE ARTICLE. SO THIS IS GOING TO HAVE TO BE
4 REDONE. SO WE'RE GOING TO QUESTION, YES, WE
5 CHANGE THE LANGUAGE, JUST STRIKE THE 75 CLAUSE
6 AND HAVE IT APPLY TO EVERYONE.

7 THE NEXT ISSUE IS THE UNLEARNED,
8 ESPECIALLY FOR A PETITION DONE BY INITIATIVE
9 FORM. YOU KNOW, YOU-ALL CAN DO A VERY EDUCATED
10 FORM. THOSE UNLEARNED, WHICH MOSTLY CONSIDER
11 LIKE I MYSELF AND OTHERS, IT'S BETTER THAT WE
12 DO HAVE MORE WORDING FROM A COMMON PERSON'S
13 STANDPOINT TO DO THE INITIATIVE. SO EVEN MORE
14 SO IT SHOULD APPLY TO THOSE WHO DO INITIATIVES
15 THAN TO YOURSELF.

16 AND I BELIEVE THAT IS ALL I HAVE FOR
17 YOU TODAY. YES. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

18 CHAIRMAN BENSE: THANK YOU, MR. PITTS. ANY
19 QUESTIONS OF THE PRESENTER?

20 (NO RESPONSE.)

21 OKAY. LET'S MOVE TO DEBATE. IS THERE ANY
22 DEBATE ON THE RESOLUTION? ANY DEBATE? ANY
23 DEBATE?

24 (NO RESPONSE.)

25 CHAIRMAN SCOTT, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED TO

1 CLOSE.

2 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: I WOULD MOVE THE PROPOSAL,
3 AND LET'S SEND IT OVER THERE AND SEE WHAT ACTUALLY
4 WE CAN GET ON IT.

5 CHAIRMAN BENSE: VICE CHAIRMAN SCOTT, HAVING
6 CLOSED ON THIS PROPOSAL, THE ISSUE COMES UP. WILL
7 THE SECRETARY PLEASE CALL THE ROLL.

8 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER BARNEY BARNETT.

9 MR. BARNETT: YES.

10 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER MARTHA BARNETT.

11 MS. BARNETT: YES.

12 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER D'ALEMBERTE.

13 MR. D'ALEMBERTE: YES.

14 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER HOGAN.

15 MR. HOGAN: YES.

16 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER JOHNSON.

17 MS. JOHNSON: YES.

18 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER LACASA.

19 MR. LACASA: YES.

20 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER LEVESQUE.

21 MS. LEVESQUE: YES.

22 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER LEVINE.

23 MR. LEVINE: YES.

24 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER MARTINEZ.

25 MR. MARTINEZ: YES.

25

1 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER MATHIS.

2 MS. MATHIS: YES.

3 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER MCKEE.

4 MR. MCKEE: YES.

5 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER LES MILLER.

6 MR. LES MILLER: YES.

7 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER RANDY MILLER.

8 MR. RANDY MILLER: YES.

9 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER RILEY.

10 MS. RILEY: YES.

11 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER ROUSON.

12 MR. ROUSON: YES.

13 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER STORY.

14 MS. STORY: YES.

15 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER TURBEVILLE.

16 MR. TURBEVILLE: YES.

17 MS. FRIER: COMMISSIONER YABLONSKI.

18 MR. YABLONSKI: YES.

19 MS. FRIER: VICE CHAIR SCOTT.

20 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: YES.

21 MS. FRIER: CHAIR BENSE.

22 CHAIRMAN BENSE: YES. AND BY YOUR VOTE THE
23 RESOLUTION PASSES.

24 OKAY. I'M GOING TO SUGGEST THAT OUR
25 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MS. SKELTON, TELL US ABOUT

26

1 THE UPCOMING MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS.

2 YOU'RE RECOGNIZED, MS. SKELTON.

3 MS. SKELTON: THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR.

4 FIRST, WITH APOLOGIES TO THOSE OF YOU WHO
5 ARE IN THE SEPARATE GROUPS ON THE 17TH. IF
6 BOTH MEETINGS IN ONE GROUP HAD CANCELLED, WE
7 COULD HAVE SHIFTED TIMES AROUND; BUT
8 UNFORTUNATELY, THAT'S NOT THE CASE.

9 SO THE MORNING MEETING IS SET FOR THE 17TH
10 OF JANUARY HERE IN TALLAHASSEE IN YOUR REGULAR
11 MEETING ROOMS WILL BE FOR THE GOVERNMENTAL
12 PROCEDURES AND STRUCTURE COMMITTEE. THE
13 AFTERNOON SLOT, THE FINANCE AND TAX COMMITTEE.

14 ON THE 18TH, THE TBRC WILL MEET FROM 9 TO
15 12:00 A.M. IN THIS ROOM, AND THERE WILL BE
16 VOTES TAKEN. SO AGAIN, WE'LL NEED A QUORUM FOR

17 THAT MEETING IN ORDER FOR VOTES TO BE TAKEN.

18 THE 25TH OF JANUARY WILL BE ALL-DAY
19 COMMITTEE MEETINGS. THERE'LL BE A MORNING SET
20 AND AN AFTERNOON SET, AGAIN.

21 AND ON THE 30TH, THE TBRC WILL MEET FOR
22 VOTES AND ALSO TO HEAR PRESENTATION BY
23 SECRETARY OF STATE KURT BROWNING ON THE BALLOT
24 SUMMARY PROCESS AND THE ACTUAL WORKINGS OF HOW
25 THE BALLOT SUMMARIES OR THE BALLOTS WILL GO

27

1 FORWARD OR THE INITIATIVES WILL GO FORWARD FROM
2 THE COMMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S
3 OFFICE, HOW THEY'RE PLACED ON THE BALLOT, AND
4 WHAT THAT PROCESS ENTAILS.

5 AND, MR. CHAIR, WE ARE LOOKING AT A FULL
6 SET OF MEETINGS ON THE 12TH OF FEBRUARY, A
7 VOTING DAY FOR THE TBRC ON THE 13TH OF
8 FEBRUARY, AND THE FINANCE AND TAX COMMITTEE IS
9 SCHEDULING A MEETING FROM 9 TO 6 ON 11TH OF
10 FEBRUARY.

11 SO FROM NOW THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF
12 FEBRUARY, WE HAVE A VERY BUSY MEETING SCHEDULE.

13 CHAIRMAN BENSE: QUESTIONS, MEMBERS?

14 COMMISSIONER MILLER, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED.

15 MR. LES MILLER: SO NEXT FRIDAY, THE DAY IS
16 STRICTLY JUST A TBRC MEETING FROM 9 TO 12?

17 CHAIRMAN BENSE: THAT'S CORRECT.

18 MR. LES MILLER: AND WE'LL BE VOTING?

19 CHAIRMAN BENSE: YES, WE WILL.

20 LET ME TELL YOU, I COMMEND MS. SKELTON ON
21 JUGGLING ALL 25 OF OUR SCHEDULES -- ACTUALLY 29
22 SCHEDULES, AND IT'S VERY DIFFICULT. AND AGAIN,
23 I'M ANXIOUS TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE SUFFICIENT
24 DEBATE ON THESE PROPOSALS AS THEY MOVE FORWARD.
25 AND I THINK THAT FEBRUARY WILL BE A BIG MONTH,

28

1 ESPECIALLY FEBRUARY THE 11TH.

2 WE TALKED ABOUT PUTTING OFF A LOT OF THE
3 PROPERTY TAX PROPOSALS UNTIL AFTER THE
4 JANUARY 29TH INITIATIVE BECAUSE THAT MIGHT
5 FRAME THE OVERALL PICTURE OF WHERE WE ARE ON
6 THAT ISSUE.

7 ANY QUESTIONS? COMMISSIONER SCOTT? YOU
8 LOOK LIKE YOU WERE READY TO FIRE AWAY AT ME
9 THERE.

10 OKAY. ANY DISCUSSION?

11 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: I MOVE TO ADJOURN.

12 CHAIRMAN BENSE: NO, WE'RE NOT QUITE READY
13 YET.

14 UNDER ANNOUNCEMENTS, CHAIRMAN LEVINE WILL
15 BE AMENDING THE GOVERNMENTAL PROCEDURES AND
16 STRUCTURE COMMITTEE FOR JANUARY 17TH TO INCLUDE
17 THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS: CP0015 BY
18 COMMISSIONER YABLONSKI AND THE F AND T
19 COMMITTEE, CP0016 BY COMMISSIONER YABLONSKI AND
20 THE F AND T COMMITTEE, AND A DRAFT TCB BY
21 COMMISSIONER TURBEVILLE.

22 I'M NOT SURE WHAT THE ISSUE IS,
23 COMMISSIONER TURBEVILLE, BUT WE'LL BE AMENDING
24 THE AGENDA FOR THAT COMMITTEE ON JANUARY 17TH.
25 THAT'S JUST A NOTICE FOR EVERYONE TO -- WE WANT

29

1 TO GET THAT NOTICE OUT.

2 ANY QUESTIONS? ANY DISCUSSION? TIME,
3 FOLKS? ANY DEBATE ON WHERE WE'RE HEADING AND
4 WHAT WE'RE DOING AND SO ON?

5 (NO RESPONSE.)

6 I WANT TO THANK ALL OF YOU-ALL FOR
7 ATTENDING THE MEETINGS ON A REGULAR BASIS.

8 AND, COMMISSIONER LEVESQUE, YOU'RE
9 RECOGNIZED.

10 MS. LEVESQUE: THANK YOU, CHAIRMAN. DID WE
11 DECIDE ON A DATE WHEN OUR AMENDMENTS -- THE
12 DEADLINE WHEN WE COULD GET AMENDMENTS IN?

13 CHAIRMAN BENSE: NO, WE DIDN'T. I SORT OF
14 GOT SHOT DOWN ON THAT WHEN I SUGGESTED
15 JANUARY 15TH, BUT I THINK WE'RE GOING TO KEEP IT
16 JUST SORT OF FLUID. YOU KNOW, I SURE DON'T WANT
17 TO BE ACCUSED OF SHUTTING OFF GOOD PROPOSALS.
18 BECAUSE, TECHNICALLY, I COULD ARGUE THIS
19 COMMISSION RUNS UNTIL JUNE 30TH, 2010, SO AGAIN,
20 IT WOULD BE PRUDENT, THOUGH.

21 I THINK THOSE OF YOU THAT ARE FAMILIAR
22 WITH THE PROCESS KNOW THAT I'M SURE THE HOUSE
23 AND SENATE BILL DRAFTING, THE WORLD THERE IS
24 GOING TO GET BUSY HERE IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

25 SO THE SOONER THE BETTER IF YOU BRING

30

1 PROPOSALS TO THEM.

2 COMMISSIONER SCOTT?

3 VICE CHAIR SCOTT: JUST FIRST OF ALL, LET ME
4 ADD MY APPRECIATION TO SUSAN AND THE STAFF FOR

5 JOCKEYING EVERYBODY'S SCHEDULE. I TRIED TO
6 CONVINCE HER SHE SHOULD ONLY SUIT MY SCHEDULE, BUT
7 SHE EXPLAINED I WASN'T IN THE SENATE ANYMORE AND I
8 UNDERSTAND.

9 BUT THE POINT IS THAT I DO THINK, HOWEVER,
10 SUSAN, I WAS GOING TO SUGGEST TO YOU,
11 MR. CHAIR, MAYBE WE ASK THE SENATE OR
12 LEGISLATURE FOR A LITTLE HELP. MAYBE FAYE
13 COULD GET SOMEONE TO GIVE US -- HELP US SEE HOW
14 WE CAN GET THE LIST OF WHERE THE STUFF IS, SORT
15 OF LIKE A CALENDAR, YOU KNOW, LIKE A DAILY --
16 ALMOST A DAILY CALENDAR OR A WEEKLY.

17 WELL, I THINK THEY CAN. I THINK IF THEY
18 JUST -- WITH A LITTLE BIT OF ASSISTANCE FROM
19 THE TECHNICAL AND MAYBE THEY WOULD HELP US LIST
20 WHERE THINGS ARE, AND THEN WHEN IT COMES TO US
21 GETTING THESE NOTICES OUT, WHICH IS WHAT'S BEEN
22 HAPPENING IS THE NIGHT BEFORE OR RIGHT BEFORE,
23 YOU KNOW, AND THAT'S THE BEST ANYBODY IS ABLE
24 TO DO, BECAUSE WE -- YOU KNOW, BEFORE THE
25 MEETING OR A DAY OR TWO BEFORE, WE'RE GETTING

31

1 SOME OF THE MATERIALS. AND I DON'T KNOW IF

2 THERE'S ANY WAY.

3 I WOULD LIKE TO AT LEAST ASK THEM IF
4 THERE'S A WAY -- I DON'T KNOW HOW, COMMUNICATE
5 BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, WE'RE TRAVELING, WE'RE ON
6 OUR BLACKBERRIES. THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN EVEN
7 OPEN SOME OF THE THINGS THAT I FOR ONE AND I
8 KNOW SOME OTHERS WERE HAVING THIS.

9 I JUST WANTED TO MAKE THE INQUIRY THAT WE
10 TRY TO SEE IF THERE'S SOME WAY, SINCE WE'RE
11 GETTING INTO THIS HOT AND HEAVY SESSION FOR THE
12 NEXT COUPLE MONTHS, THAT WE'RE ABLE TO EXPEDITE
13 NOTICES AND COPIES AND WHATEVER FOR THE
14 MEMBERS.

15 CHAIRMAN BENSE: WE CAN DO THAT. WE'LL DO
16 THE BEST WE CAN. THE SENATE HAS BEEN VERY
17 ACCOMMODATING SO FAR IN LETTING US USE THEIR
18 FACILITIES, AND WE ONCE AGAIN THANK THEM FOR THAT.

19 ANY MORE QUESTIONS, ANY DISCUSSION?
20 COMMISSIONER STORY, YOU'RE RECOGNIZED.

21 MS. STORY: MR. CHAIRMAN, I'M GOING TO GO
22 BACK TO YOUR COMMENT ABOUT PEOPLE GETTING
23 PROPOSALS IN. FOR THE TAX AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
24 WE HAD A LOT OF DISCUSSION; AND FOR EXAMPLE,

25 TALKING ABOUT PROPERTY TAX PROPOSALS.

32

1 IT IS EXTREMELY HELPFUL FOR US TO HAVE ALL
2 THE PROPOSALS THAT WE CAN IN AS WE'RE
3 DISCUSSING. AND IN FACT, THE INTERRELATIONSHIP
4 BETWEEN EXEMPTION SALES -- THE EXEMPTIONS ON
5 SALES TAX REVIEWS, ALL THE THINGS WE'RE TALKING
6 ABOUT, THERE WAS A CONCERN ABOUT MAKING SURE
7 THAT WE DO IT AS CONSISTENTLY AS POSSIBLE. SO
8 WHEN WE DISCUSS THIS, IF THEN THREE WEEKS LATER
9 THERE'S A PROPOSAL RELATED, I JUST THINK FROM A
10 CONSISTENCY STANDPOINT TO BACK UP WHAT THE
11 CHAIRMAN SAID, AS SOON AS WE GET THESE
12 PROPOSALS IN WE CAN HANDLE THEM FROM AN
13 AGGREGATE STANDPOINT AND PROBABLY COME OUT WITH
14 A MUCH BETTER PRODUCT IN TERMS OF WHAT OUR
15 COMMITTEE DOES.

16 CHAIRMAN BENSE: AGREED. ANY MORE
17 DISCUSSION?

18 SEEING NONE, COMMISSIONER TURBEVILLE MOVES
19 WE RISE.

20 (THE PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED AT 2:15 PM)

21

22
23
24
25

33

1

2

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

3

4

5

6 STATE OF FLORIDA)

7 COUNTY OF LEON)

8

9

I, LISA D. FREEZE, NOTARY PUBLIC, CERTIFY

10

THAT I WAS AUTHORIZED TO AND DID STENOGRAPHICALLY

11

REPORT THE PROCEEDINGS HEREIN, AND THAT THE TRANSCRIPT

12

IS A TRUE AND COMPLETE RECORD OF MY STENOGRAPHIC NOTES.

13

I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT I AM NOT A RELATIVE,

14

EMPLOYEE, ATTORNEY OR COUNSEL OF ANY OF THE PARTIES,

15

NOR AM I A RELATIVE OR EMPLOYEE OF ANY OF THE PARTIES'

16

ATTORNEY OR COUNSEL CONNECTED WITH THE ACTION, NOR AM I

17

FINANCIALLY INTERESTED IN THE ACTION.

18

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL THIS 11TH

19 DAY OF JANUARY, 2008.

20

21

22

23

LISA D. FREEZE, RPR, NOTARY PUBLIC

2894 REMINGTON GREEN LANE

24

TALLAHASSEE, FL 32308

850-878-2221

25