

These cannot be amortized over a 15-year period without a dramatic increase in the current tax burden. More importantly, because of the beneficial life of these improvements, they probably should be liquidated over a longer period.

Because of the complexity of this subject, I will later submit to this Convention a separate memorandum specifying my views and suggesting certain changes in the draft provisions.

Section 6.05 is perhaps the most politically sensitive provision in the entire draft Constitution. As an administrator who can proudly point to significant accomplishments in increasing State financial aid to all facets of public education, I am compelled to speak out forthrightly on this measure.

While I support the provisions of Section 6.05 requiring the mandatory inclusion of budgetary requests from the legislative and judicial branches of State government, I contend that the executive and legislative branches should have the authority to review and revise the education budget. Education is a part of the executive responsibility and while I do not deny its prominence in program priority, its budgetary provisions should not be excepted any more than those of the departments responsible for securing our citizens' health and public safety. The Governor and General Assembly, who in the last analysis are responsible for raising funds to support all State programs, and who are held directly responsible by the electorate for any increase in the tax burden, must be permitted the right to exercise discretionary powers commensurate with this responsibility. There is no reason to justify the obvious want of confidence in the executive and legislative branches that this section implies.

The exception of budgetary control over education is inconsistent with the constitutional concept requiring checks and balances to exist *among* and not within any single branch of government. In fact, this exception violates that constitutional principle in two of our three branches.

Similar logic must be applied in your consideration of Section 6.08. If the provisions of Section 6.05 require legislative and judicial budgets to be transmitted as requested, it is my belief that the Governor should have the right to exercise line item veto over these appropriations as enacted by the General Assembly. Without this right of executive review, the electorate is bereft of safeguards limiting legislative expenses.