

1 we have to accept them, because we would have to set up a
2 department superimposed over theirs to just make these
3 estimates, and actually, in the past few years, fortunately
4 for us, unfortunately for them, they have been the biggest
5 reverter of any agency in the State.

6 MR. RENNIE: But they revert for two reasons;
7 primarily because they have not been able to hire the
8 teachers that they need under the classroom formula ratio
9 of pupil and teacher, and also the fact that the assessable
10 base has always gone up. In the past ten years, it's gone
11 up above the estimates and, of course, we thrashed this out,
12 the accessible base, with Albert Ward of the Department of
13 Assessments and Taxation, and Fiscal Research sits in on
14 this. Actually, practically anyone who wants to sit in on
15 it, in education, in the comptroller's office, because we
16 always use this figure for the State debt requirement.

17 THE CHAIRMAN: What I'm getting at, Jim, does this
18 provision in the Constitution which is found in Paragraphs
19 11 and 12 --

20 MR. RENNIE: Of Section 52?

21 THE CHAIRMAN: -- of Section 52, of Article 3,