

Tax Session – 1

DM/

12/6

MonAM

Arkansas legislators will meet in a special session this week to discuss a bill which would lower the state's individual income tax rate. On Talk Business and Politics this week, state Senator Jonathan Dismang (dizz-mang), Republican from Beebe (bee-bee) said reducing individual income taxes is one strategy for attracting new businesses to the state.

News20 0:11 "...ultimately retire here."

Critics, like the Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families, argue the proposed tax cuts favor the wealthy and will reduce funding for quality Pre-K education and after school and summer programs for state youth. The special session convenes Tuesday.

Tax Session – 2

DM/

12/6

MonAM

Governor Asa Hutchinson has called a special session of the legislature to consider a tax reform bill. This week on Talk Business and Politics, Republican state Senator Jonathan Dismang (dizz-mang), said the proposed bill could weaken the push by some legislators to eliminate individual income taxes altogether.

News21 0:14 "...as far as tax cuts."

The proposal could lower the top tax rate for individuals from 5.9%-percent to 4.9%-percent over the next four years. The bill will also combine the lower- and middle-income tax brackets. Opponents of the proposal argue that cutting revenue from individual income taxes cuts funding for early education and childcare programs and reduces access to health care for the poorest in the state.