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## Local legislators advise caution

**BY DAVID BEARD** The Dominion Post

Three local legislators like the concept of the 1 cent food tax cut, with due caution.

Delegate Barbara Evans Fleischauer, DMonongalia, said, "It's really obvious that's a regressive tax. We should work to get rid of it but we shouldn't do it all at once."

Thirty-one states don't tax food at all, according to the nonprofit Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

Fleischauer said she understands that needs must be weighed. "I hope we have money for it. ... There are a lot of competing demands."

Freshman Delegate Tony Barill, D-Monongalia, favors taking off the penny, but agrees there are too many other issues to consider lopping off all 3 cents.

And freshman colleague Amanda Pasdon, RMonongalia, said, "I don't think it's something you can be against because it eases the burden on our citizens, and that's key right now. ... The governor is thinking, 'How can we give back to the people? How can we help them?' "

While West Virginia is seeing an economic turnaround, "the timing may never be great; you just have to take a leap and get there. [Meanwhile,] financially, we have to be responsible."