

May 9, 1975

SENATOR SYAS: I'm going to be brief the second time around. We'd all like to cut. Senator Kelly gets into the act and he says ... brings up the schools the other day. Of course he didn't vote for class 3's. He even withdrew his amendment on class 2. I don't see what the heck that has to do with this bill anyhow. I don't know if the people in his district, since he was the one that brought it up, I don't know if they know about the home out there or not that they get cut too. I think if they find out that Senator Kelly is cutting his state facility out there and the state schools out there, of his district, they're not going to be ... he's not going to be the hero he thinks he is. Same way with these other districts with state colleges and institutions in. This will affect them. They can go home to that if they want to. It doesn't make any difference to me. I just want to say for your benefit, I haven't got a state institution in the district. Actually I shouldn't be worried. But I am worried about the State of Nebraska and the people in it. That's not an institution. I know what Senator Simpson was referring to. Anyhow that's all I'm going to say. I think the Budget Committee heard these things. They should know what they're doing. If they didn't then we're all misled. I'm going to stick with the Budget Committee as they had it. Bereuter can be the hero if he wants to. I'm opposed to this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Bereuter, are you ready to close on this matter?

SENATOR BEREUTER: Mr. President, I am ready. I don't ... I'm not trying to play the hero role. It looks like I'm playing the goat role. I'm not admitting that there's fat in the Appropriations Committee recommendations. What I'm saying is the programs are started. Ways of operating programs are made rigid. Never is there any serious consideration to eliminating practices, and programs, and procedures once they're started. I'm saying that I think 3% cut back, with the exceptions I've given you, would have a salutary effect on the bureaucracy and on delivery of services. You can expect that agencies, if it were to be enacted, would scream very vehemently saying we're going to have to cut this and that service. They would point to services that are dearest to peoples hearts. It's inevitable. That's a typical response you would expect. I want to remind you that we're talking somewhere between \$8 and \$9.1 million, practically the effect of a 1% increase in income tax. I would also say if Senator Lewis and others wish to exempt grant and aid programs for education or for political subdivisions in general, why didn't they offer an amendment. Maybe that's reasonable. I can tell you, as a matter of fact, approximately what that amendment would have cost. That's all I have to say. I think that we have too many absences here for my best interest and for the best interest of this particular amendment. I want you to make a decision on it today. I'm not going to prolong the matter by carrying it over.