

March 12, 1984

LB 1128

information at least that you were provided by the committee, it was indicated that there is an amendment pending on LB 962 that laps the interest income on the special cash flow reserve which was the half cent sales tax to the general fund, the amount of interest accumulated this year as well as next year. It leaves totally intact the estimated \$36 or so million that will be in the principal in that fund and that obviously should remain in that status. So if you reject the committee amendment for the cut, it is conceivable that it could be funded out of that \$4.5 million of interest. However, I would suggest that you support the cut and realize that there may well be more important appropriations in which that \$4.5 million could be used. One of the areas it seems to me may well be addressed, I don't know how the Legislature is going to vote, but there is legislation proposing improvements in the retirement for teachers and it may well end up about the only thing done for education, in light of the revenue picture and depending on what can be done with the tax rates, but this is the issue separately addressed so that the body can either sustain the reduction or vote to leave that money in the budget. My personal hope would be that you do support the committee amendment to reduce the amount in the budget by the \$3.9 million, keeping in mind that even though there may well be some additional funds available that could be used for this purpose, I have a suspicion there is a greater purpose that would merit the use of those funds.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol, do you wish recognition? We will have order in the Chamber, please. Senator Nichol. (Gavel.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would ask Senator Warner a question, please. You are suggesting we do support the state aid to education. I notice on the letter we have just received from the Governor, he is suggesting that we fund 994 to \$10 million. Would you still support that if we support this?

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Nichol, what I am trying to suggest is that the body would support the committee's amendment which would mean we would reduce or would not restore that