

April 9, 1984

LB 341

then its passage didn't accomplish anything either, but if on the other hand it does mean something, then you are talking about between a 6 and 7 million dollar deficit next time plus another 33 million or almost 34 million probably for '85-86. Indicated earlier we were at 48 million plus 6 is 55 plus another 34 and you are stretching a budget next year which I don't think anybody wants to go home and campaign on this year. And all of us would like to see something done for property tax relief but I think the route that we started on this afternoon is not a route that you are going to find acceptable anywhere and I would hope you would not get carried away with the assumption that you are doing something that is going to be popular and acceptable and has to be done today. Every one of these things you better wait until you can fit them into a budget and a rate setting time all at once. I don't have a problem with supporting because I have always understood that if you make a substantive increase in aid programs for property tax relief it is automatically accompanied by a tax rate in sales or income taxes. There is no other way out of it. But I don't think you want to load that gun barrel so heavy this year that you find out that somebody put a plug in the barrel next year and the gun blows up in your face which could well happen and I don't hunt. But please carefully consider what route you are embarking on because I think you are about to take a trip that you don't want to go.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vard Johnson, did you wish to speak again?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes, I did. Senator Nichol, members of the body, I have one final word I wanted to say and I think it is basically in response to Senator Warner. 341 does contain intent language. 341 is not a self-operative program, requires funds by which to operate. As we all know, one Legislature may not bind a second Legislature with respect to appropriations. 341 contains no appropriations. 341A contains the appropriations. That bill is not about to be overridden because Senator Vickers has no intent of bringing the bill up. So 341, if anything, is simply a cautionary directive bill and that is it. I want to deal with a loaded gun argument because one of the things that we