

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, the longer you are around here the more you learn. I learned a lot yesterday. I learned how to eliminate programs. I learned how to eliminate agencies. You do it when there are only four days or three days left in the session and you strike the budget bill. It's a hell of a lot easier than introducing a bill and doing it the right way. Now I'm finding out how to add agencies, how to add programs. We've got a real exercise in tearing down the policy and the structure of our system going on the last couple of days. Senator Nichol, you made the comment yesterday that we didn't deserve a raise. I'll tell you what, I didn't agree with you yesterday but I sure as hell do today. I agree with every one of those editors out there that are saying we are a bunch of clowns. I agree with the Governor when he said we were a comedy of animals because this is the craziest thing I ever saw. We eliminate programs with a budget bill, and now we are going to build programs with a budget bill. We are not going to use the regular appropriations process. We are not going to use a regular A bill. We are not going to use the regular bill introduction to eliminate them. We're going to do it through the appropriations bill. If that is the way you want to do it, then fine, go ahead and do it. If you want to be one of those people that are counted by those editors as being a bunch of nuts, go ahead. Count my name out. I'll speak to the other amendment after this is amended. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Warner, did you wish to speak further to the Rod Johnson amendment?

SENATOR WARNER: No, I'll wait until the amendment is on.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question at this time...Senator Miller, did you wish to close on Senator Rod Johnson's amendment to the amendment? All right.

SENATOR MILLER: We're going to have a little bit more discussion, but what this amendment does is it totally eliminates any state responsibility. So I would urge a vote for this amendment to the amendment. Then we can have a little further discussion on the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question before you is at this time the Rod Johnson amendment to the amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Please vote on the Rod Johnson