

put us all in a, in a status of limbo so we discussed welfare to the extent that there was no difference in the two recommendations. I also made a discussion and I thought it was an important item that many of you have been contacted in the area of mental retardation and we were talking about the fact in 71 and 72 totally putting all funds that we were spending in excess of 15 million dollars. Now we did not go into detail on some of the other items but what I would propose to do as far as other appropriations bills, is to--because we're pressed for time and if the Legislature doesn't agree, then we'll have to hold the hearings next week, to try to hold the hearings on the two bills that the Governor has requested Thursday afternoon in addition to this, to proceed with capital construction. Now I may still not have answered your question.

SENATOR BARNETT: That's a lot better. Mr. President, may I continue? I guess I can. Senator Marvel, I have probably one or two more if you would. First of all I, I don't know whether you are aware of it or not but the Governor has probably already made arrangements to reduce the spending. He's already making procedures known throughout the agencies because we get the reports and I'm sure you might have received some already from different agencies. Actually, what he says he can do, there's no doubt that he can do it, in anybody's mind because he's just going to quit replacing a lot of things. This'll be one way he will do it. Now another question--

SENATOR MARVEL: Well, may I, may I respond--

SENATOR BARNETT: --sure and then, would you respond with a--to another thing in relationship to this. Can you tell me why our fiscal staff did not know of these great increased revenues--

SENATOR MARVEL: Okay.

SENATOR BARNETT: --you know what I'm trying to...if you would tell me why they didn't know it and DAS did.

SENATOR MARVEL: Yeah, now, will you keep, keep that second question in mind and help me because I'm going to get engrossed in your first question and then you may have to re-remind me of the second question. I think the Chief Executive of this State, regardless of the bill that we passed, whether it was 259A or 259B or some other form of 259, could do Senator Barnett, what you suggest and that's to withhold expenditure of funds. Now, I would like to respond to this and I have said this to the various agencies who have questioned whether 259 in the form in which we passed it is adequate. I think it behooves them to help the Legislature during this interim period between now and the first of January, it behooves them to help us with what we call legislative oversight. Any legislative branch, after they appropriate money, has not only the right but also the responsibility to see that the money is spent adequately. We have that constitutional right as far as I'm concerned so, regardless of which bill we pass, if the Chief Executive saw fit, especially in the area of co-departments and we've seen this happen, he could simply say this is all the money you're going to spend and that's it. Senator Chambers, I'm certain, can, can verify this in the area, in some areas of welfare so I think we have passed 259, I think we have pinpointed the fact that this bill has to be