

February 13, 1974

SENATOR FOWLER: I assume the Governor would confront this directly by appearing either in person or through some of his representatives when the Capital Construction Budget comes up to express himself. But I think he is by group. No, I'm not included on one of the groups, that's why I'm interested in your discussion because this is the only way I know that we can be exposed to this directly. Thank you, Sir.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter, do you have further input in this area now? Senator Nore is your light on, if you are through turn your light off, then because I have a tough time keeping track of what's going on here.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Can we return temporarily to the State Auditor.

PRESIDENT: Yes, Senator Carpenter wants to revert temporarily back to the State Auditor

SENATOR CARPENTER: On page 7.

PRESIDENT: Page 7.

SENATOR CARPENTER: I would like to have a dialogue with the Chairman of the Budget Committee. May I say to this body that this is the most important function of government, that you can be subjected to. This is the beginning and end of all you are going to get in all the work we put in while we are here. And by the very nature of being so voluminous, it's hard for any of us to understand all of it. Certainly I don't I only pick out the points which I have some background on, and I think I have at least a little knowledge. I want to say a few words about the State Auditor. And you look at page 7, it says here for example, if I have interpreted it right, on line 20, it says Program 506 for State Agency and County post-audit. Now you first have to understand that all subdivisions of government of all villages of all cities of all kinds and classes are required by law passed by this Legislature, and the regulation by the Treasurer on his form to make a report each year and send to him by certified audit or equivalent. And then he pursues those and I presume he goes over them and to see if they are in proper form and how many violations there have been, and if so, what to do about it. Now let's take everything above that area, in the Counties he audits at least all of those who handle money, but I don't think he audits what the County Commissioners do to spend the money. And there is where these things start. Now let take for example any state agency, of all the agencies that we give money to, cooperation or delectry, he doesn't do anything about those, he never audits any of them. All the Public Power Districts and all the NRA's and all the things of equivalent position are never audited, to the point that they could and should be. And why is that? First he doesn't think he has the authority to do it because we don't specifically tell him to do it. And we did he doesn't have enough money to do it anyway. Now if we really want to do if what we ought to do, if this is going to be good government, and I think we are all concerned about this. And I ask Senator Marvel he won't bring in an amendment to this bill if it's germane and I think it is, to take line 20 and break it down and be specific what the State Auditor has to do and to some extent why and how he is going to do it. And then we have to give him enough money to go and do it, and then if he don't do it we ought to impeach him or something else to get somebody who will do it. Now we're