

March 4, 1974

we get into the middle of it. Now I don't know how anybody can project anything now, to serve any good purpose except the future argument on things that nobody can settle because they haven't happened yet. So we have only got 23 days left 23 days left. That is all that there is, and it is my understanding that the budget committee will have all of the budgets out on this floor for your consideration, debate and discussion this week. Now why go into the...all of the projection of all of this thing in order to further confuse people beyond what they have been confused now. We can not make any projections until we know what we are going to spend and nobody can project that. I would not have the remotest idea. Now what I think Senator Marvel was saying if I can understand his remarks, the options that you might have you could postpone and he is not recommending this as I understand he is only giving you an option. We can put off all of the capital expenditures for the major part which would save about eight million dollars and put them off until next year. With some exceptions they don't have to be done. To the extent that they ought to be done we ought to amend 997 or whatever the number is. Now, if we want to be frugal and I'm not particularly one of those that advocate this, but that is besides the point. If you really are interested in keeping this mil levy, the sales tax down to what it is and if you want to keep the income tax down to maybe 11, maybe 11, I'm talking about next year, not this year. We are going to end up this year with a surplus of about ten million dollars. Now if you really want to do that you can do that by putting off some of the things that we can do without until next year. I would say that if you want to do that in any case, if you want to be reasonable considerates there is no reason then in the world to raise the income tax above 13%. Now again only speaking my own position, I'm in favor of taking care of need. I'm unusual. I'm supposed to be senile and out of my mind and I presume that I am. But nevertheless I still understand public need and I understand what is going on in this country and I don't think that many members do. I want to take care of these people to the extent that they won't go to the street and take care of us. Now there is something more important than either the amount of the sales or the income tax, that is the need. Of course we have to determine that collectively by 25 votes. But all Senator Marvel was saying in my judgment if you want to be frugal you can consider when the capital budget comes up lets put it off. Everything except those few things that might be necessary to carry on for example the heating system, I understand the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and a few things like that

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but we can save and pick up about eight million dollars if you want to put this capital construction off until next year. We are living alright now as it is, we can live another year that same way. If I am not correct in my interpretation I hope that Senator Marvel will correct me.

PRESIDENT: Senator Cavanaugh.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Now if I can interpret Senator Carpenters remarks, he doesn't want us further confused by the facts.