

April 12, 1979

LB 542

with an unfortunate situation with state aircraft. I think the budget committee has made a reasonable proposal and a reasonable suggestion of replacement, and you know this same kind of hesitancy has resulted in the Department of Aeronautics not replacing this aircraft like it should be replaced, because of the hassle, and we do I think verge on the area of unsafe aircraft if these people, these professional people, these aeronautics people, don't have the leeway to get this equipment in shape as it should be. So I think, and apparently now we have a mood where we're going to look into every item of the budget and that's fine, that's great. I have no objection to that. I think some of these issues should be debated. I think it's fine that these things be brought up on the floor of the committee. I have no problem with that, not in the least bit. I think our total budget has been defensible and I think we can go in and find any item like this where we can decide either for or against, and I'm certainly not in opposition in any way to full public debate on these kind of issues. I think it should be. I had mentioned in the committee that I thought this coming through the deficit bill might not be an appropriate place. Well, I was convinced different by the other members of the committee that this was the proper place for this type of an expenditure, but I still think Senator Lewis is alright in bringing this up. It's alright to debate it and I think there are some other items in this bill that we ought to talk about.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Lewis for purpose of closing on his motion to return.

SENATOR LEWIS: Well, Mr. President, I first of all want to thank Senator Koch for those courteous and kind remarks, and as we'd say in Oklahoma, same to you, buddy. I want Senator Cullan to know that I also don't care whether he thinks I'm happy or sad, because I don't sit up nights worrying about that, about what he thinks in terms of my personal happiness. Now that I've got the courtesies out of the way, I will get to the issue at hand. You know, this business is a number game, and probably what I ought to do now is to withdraw my motion. There's 36 on the floor. This carries the emergency clause. All you have to do is pull 4 votes off and it will be available for discussion next week. So I think, Mr. President, based on the accolades of my colleagues, and the strong support for this particular amendment, that we will just do it not by issue and not by substance, but like we have done before and simply by numbers. So, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to

3359