

legislation to save them. Over the past eight years for sure it is the Legislature of this state that has taken all the public blame, all the heat for increasing expenditures when, in fact, it is local government, if you will check the records, that has had the biggest increases in expenditures and the bulk of the state increases have been in the form of additional relief to the local government. So what you are in effect doing is, you, the Legislature, who have taken all the blame and who this year for one of the first times have a budget you can live within and gain credibility, are now voluntarily, so to speak, breaking your budget so that you can save the very people who have been breaking their budgets over the years. Just realize what you are doing to yourselves from a credibility standpoint. I repeat, we are breaking our budget which we could have lived within so we can bail out somebody else who couldn't live within theirs. We will take the blame, not them.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Lewis. Senator Lewis.

SENATOR LEWIS: I call the question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The question has been called for. ...five hands? Okay, question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor of that motion vote aye, opposed no.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Debate is ceased. The Chair recognizes... let's see, we are on the committee amendments, adoption of the committee amendments. Senator Cullan, the Chair recognizes you to close on the committee amendments.

SENATOR CULLAN: No close, Mr. Chairman. I ask for the adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the committee amendments. I have... What is the order? What is your point?

SENATOR NEWELL: ...(mike not turned on)...committee amendments were adopted.

SPEAKER MARVEL: No.

SENATOR NEWELL: Okay, I'm sorry.

SPEAKER MARVEL: I have three lights on. I can't ignore them. Senator Schmit, Senator Haberman, Senator Kelly.