

May 8, 1979

LB 585

Warner. If you're going to take your lumps you just as well take your lumps with a substantial amount as one for a minuscule amount, and we're going to get our lumps, but I want to reinforce what Senator Warner said earlier that no one item ever broke the budget, but it is a cumulative effect, and that cumulative effect, you know, you can go home and say, well I didn't really break the budget because I voted against state aid, or I didn't break the budget, I voted against the capital construction, or I didn't break the budget, I voted against something else. But when you add them all up and you recognize that it takes 25 votes, in some instances a few more than that, the effect is the same. So the shellacking is going to be the same and you can go back home and you can say, well I really didn't do that because I didn't vote for these projects or that project. The facts are that the Legislature...the Legislature is the one which voted for those projects, and you can stand here and vote against every one of them and when you go back home you're still going to take your shellacking right alongside of the rest of us, and I think that's what over the past eight years, and I've been shellacked with the best of them, Senator Dworak, for the last eight years Governor Exon did it to us each time, and we are handing the old shillelagh to Governor Thone, and I trust he's going to know how to use it. But maybe he will look at it in a different context. I just hope he will not veto the money. I know that the property taxes which we have spoken of are burdensome to our people. I had hoped earlier in this session when I offered the amendments to LB 487 that this Legislature would address that issue and address it realistically. In the absence of a realistic approach, in the absence of an overall approach to the problem, in the presence of the Supreme Court decision this morning which tiptoed around the issue again, we continue to address the problem piecemeal, bit by bit, nitpick here, peck away on something else until the day will come when the people will have their belly full, and it may be closer than you think. In the meantime we may just as well do as Senator Dworak has indicated, reinforced by Senator Lewis and Senator Warner, make a meaningful contribution to those property tax reductions which we hope will take place. I support the Dworak amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President and members of the body, I'd like to speak in opposition to Senator Dworak's proposal for additional state aid. It's kind of interesting