

April 18, 1980

LB 996

of the Legislative Journal.) 38 ayes, 6 nays, Mr. President....39 ayes, 6 nays, 4 present and not voting, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The bill is declared passed with emergency clause attached. Do you have a motion on the desk, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Warner moves pursuant to Rule 6, Section 14, that the Legislature override the Governor's line-item vetoes of: (Read the line-item vetoes as found on page 1991 of the Legislative Journal regarding LB 996.)

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, you have had passed out a packet of sheets containing the recommendations of the Appropriations Committee pursuant to the rule as read by the Clerk. I neglected to put my initials on the sheet, you will notice, for which I apologize. The procedure that we are suggesting to you is to take up the four bills which we are recommending to override numerically, starting with 996. The packet that you have, and I can go through it agency by agency if you like, but I want to explain the basic thing we are suggesting to you. I would suggest there is one basic question on the top of this issue, by the way, before I get to that one, and that is whether or not the majority of the body or 30 members rather place a higher priority or the same priority that the committee recommended for taking care of adequate salaries for state employees before we begin to fund new and expanded programs or additional aid programs, the other alternatives that we have. Number two, I think it is important for us to realize that in the Governor's veto message he did not...and I repeat because I think it is significant...he did not line-item reduce any of the personal services limitation. So the authorization is still in those bills for the level of spending for salaries as the committee originally proposed within the reduced budget, if they can find the money. Now keep it in mind also that the purpose of the three percent, and that's all we are talking about, was the result of a salary survey which indicated that on the average as of July 1 of 1979, ten months ago, or nearly ten months ago, that the average state employee's salary was 10.3 percent below the local competing market within the state. We are suggesting that that disparity of 10.3 percent be made up by only three percent, recognizing that there are

10331