

April 6, 1982

LB 761

Mr. President, the next motion I have on LB 761 is a motion to return the bill to Select File for specific amendment. That amendment is found on page 1850 or 1589 of the Journal, excuse me, 1589. It is offered by Senator Howard Peterson.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Peterson.

SENATOR PETERSON: Mr. Chairman, this is an amendment that I offered the other day but we did not have at that time the report of the Revenue Department. We all or most of us got a chance to look at it yesterday. I think the situation is serious enough that we ought to reconsider our vote the other day on delaying the raise as far as state employees is concerned to January 1, 1983. It appears to me that if you look at the report from yesterday we are down over \$17.5 million in sales tax. We are down approximately \$6 million in individual income tax, some over \$2 million in corporate tax, some over \$1 million, \$1,650,00 in miscellaneous taxes, a total of over \$27 million, and then I understand we have had some tremendous amounts of refunds on top of that so that we have got somewhere in the neighborhood of \$50 million that we need to make up and it just appears to me that we are in a serious situation, that we ought to be up front with employees and tell them specifically where we are and that is the reason why I would move the adoption of this particular motion.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I would like to oppose the amendment again. I don't think it is necessary to make long speeches. I suppose we have all got our minds made up but I simply want to reiterate what I think should be done. If we make the decision that we need to cut back, then again let's not cut back across the board and inadequately fund the programs that we are funding and the people that we are hiring. Let's have the courage to grab a hold of a program or two, and I am sure Senator Warner is going to be suggesting some programs to us, and lop off the programs. Let's not do some things if we don't have money to do it and let's do the things that we are doing well and pay the people adequately. I plead with you to reject the amendment again. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I, like Senator Beutler, will be very brief, the point being that this is the same amendment that was proposed not too very long ago by Senator Peterson. It was defeated by this