

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 1 introduced by Senator Lamb at the request of the Governor. (Read title). The bill was first read, Mr. President, on November 5 of this year. It was referred directly to General File.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Warner to discuss the bill.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have had an opportunity to visit with some of you but unfortunately not with all, but when we were just down in the Appropriations Committee, we also discussed the idea. We are still in session trying to see if we can get an consensus or agreement within the committee as to a possible solution for the entire issues before us, and when I say "the entire issue", I am thinking not only the '82-'83 budget but the things that we need to take into account for '83-'84 budget next year as well so that we can have a consideration for both aspects. I would be hopeful that by noon the committee position will be either resolved or beyond resolving, but in any event, we will know what that action can be. You will then know what that action is. It will be available in summary form so that you will have today or in the evening to review and look at what you feel might be a better alternative and also provide the staff time to draft appropriate amendments where necessary to be presented, and then present those on Select File. That I would, Mr. President, move that LB 1 be advanced to Select File with the understanding that the specific proposal, if any, that comes from the Appropriations Committee, and I sincerely believe that we will have one, but then that be taken up on Select File in essence tomorrow, and in essence we can have one argument to try and resolve the issue, but in addition you will have at least overnight plus the afternoon to look at what the committee may recommend or suggest and develop whatever alternatives you want. The only other thing I would suggest to you is that the figures you have to start with is what is the shortfall in terms of receipts through June 30th that you feel is correct. As you know Mr. Leuenberger's figures yesterday depending on whether you used Chase or DRI, the minimum shortfall under Chase was \$38 million, the maximum shortfall under DRI, which is generally more conservative as far as the economy is concerned, was in the vicinity of \$67 million, I believe it was, and somewhere in between those two ranges is the place to set and we have not as yet in the committee, we have been discussing it for the first hour, have not developed a consensus there, but as soon as we do, that is the place that we have to start, and I think each of us in our own minds have to start at that point, and then there is a number of things that, of course, decisions that lead from there. So with that explanation, Mr. President, if there is other discussion that people would like to make relative to the budget bill on the general philosophical bases, that certainly would be I assume appropriate today. Tomorrow I would hope that we could deal solely with the hard decision of dollars figures where the cuts are going to be, what the ramifications of not doing them are going to be, and go from there. So with that explanation, Mr. President, I move the bill be advanced.

SENATOR LAMB: We have no other lights on at this point. Senator Higgins.