

February 20, 1985

and I say that additional expenses will occur if we do not wait until we get to the end until we have the total picture. Now I know the Appropriations Committee is very cognizant of the budget figures, but I would guess that there are many of us in this legislative body who have not at this point thought a great deal about that total figure and how each bill impacts it as it comes from committee. So I would advise you from perspective of having been on the Appropriations Committee that it is much wiser to wait and see what the total revenue picture is and what the appropriations demands are as we get down to the final end. So I would urge you to oppose Senator DeCamp's amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Do you wish to speak again, Senator Warner?

SENATOR WARNER: On the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Very well, speaking on the amendment, very well.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, first I would like to suggest that the proposal to change the time for A bills which I happen to also think ought to be reviewed, ought to maybe be best handled, Senator DeCamp, if it went through the Rules Committee and we really thought this thing through. I would like to say that there is a constitutional history that gave credibility, I guess would be the word, to holding the A bills. One of the items that was discussed at length in the 1920 constitutional convention...(interruption)

PRESIDENT: Senator Warner, hold on a minute, I want to get order for you. (Gavel.) A little too much conversation going around the Chamber. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: One of the discussions that...one of the items that was discussed quite a bit at the 1920 constitutional convention was to make a part of our Constitution the requirement that the operations, the current operations of state government be funded first as a matter of legislative process until any new or expanded programs were added. And it has in it, as does the A rule, the basic concept that you should adequately fund whatever level you are going to fund which you are currently doing before you go out and do something new, not "undifferent" than what you do in a household that you fund those things