

PRESIDENT: Senator Higgins, do you wish to be recognized on this amendment? Very well. Is there further discussion on the amendment explained by Senator Warner? If not, the motion is to adopt the amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. You are voting on an amendment just explained by Senator Warner to LB 722. Please record your vote. Have you all voted? Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the Appropriations Committee amendments, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The amendment is adopted. Next.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have to the bill is by Senator DeCamp. Senator, I understand you want to withdraw that one and offer an amendment that would essentially strike the general fund appropriation by an amount of 3 percent. Is that correct? (DeCamp amendment appears on pages 2407-08 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR DECAMP: Yes.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator DeCamp. May we have order in the Chamber, please. (Gavel.)

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President and members, I shall try to be relatively brief and relatively specific. We've done approximately, in round numbers, I'm going to say \$10 million in cuts. There are those that feel a \$30 million total cut needs to be made. My proposal is based upon the following premise: Number one, that those specific programs that could reasonably be cut in significant amounts have now been accomplished. I go on the theory that the Appropriations Committee should be in a position to know what specifically can be targeted and effectively cut better than anybody else in here based upon both the political reality and what they know the absolute needs are. For example, if I had my choice, we would cut \$4.5 or \$5 million from the muny court system. That affects Omaha and Lincoln. It saves Omaha and Lincoln significantly on property taxes. It doesn't do a thing for the rural areas. Why am I not pushing that right now? Because I don't think it is passable. The very people that want to do the cuts don't want to do those things. I use that simply as an example. State employees' salaries, I