

to ask you if that wasn't the matter before the house. The amendment that Senator Beutler has up there to this amendment as explained by Senator Beutler, I just want to remind the body that this is the amendment that would grant some exclusions to this across the board cut and those exclusions are the same ones that Senator DeCamp had in his amendment the other day and the ones that, minus the ones that Senator Chambers objected to. They're the ones for such things as the School for the Deaf, School for the Visually Handicapped, mental retardation, blind rehabilitation, mental health, regional centers, Beatrice State Development Center, Nebraskan's Veterans Hospital, Nebraska Center for Children and Youth, workers comp., court judges, the employee retirement and the state claims. Now I assume there are those that would think that there are some of those various things that could be subject to a two percent cut as well, but we are attempting to be somewhat cognizant of the needs of some certain classes of people. I'll attempt to speak to the main amendment a little bit later, but I would like to make the point at this time that I think it's important that we adopt Senator Beutler's amendment to this amendment recognizing as Senator Marsh has pointed out, that it is a little difficult to make it and a little unfair at times to make across the board cuts. We understand that. As one of the people that signed the letter yesterday as well, that was one of the purposes for the letter. The Appropriations Committee, in my opinion, are the surgeons in this body when it comes to dealing with the budget. They spend a lot of time with it. They know how to go into that budget with a scalpel if necessary and do the things that need to be done without killing off the patient or without severely damaging the patient and I thought it was important that we ask the Appropriations Committee to go back into the operating room with that scalpel and do some things because of the fact that we simply, several of us, myself included, believe that in the economic conditions that a lot of our people are in right now, and I certainly understand that since I'm one of them, we're having to cut our budgets considerably. There is no way we can continue to operate as we have operated in the past as individual businesses or as individuals with our own lives. I think our constituents expect us to do likewise and I would remind Senator Lamb and others that they are our constituents also. This is a legislative body, we're the ones that are supposed to be making those decisions. The Governor, in my opinion, either approves or