

this amendment fails, and I quite frankly hope it does not, I will be supporting "the Beutler amendment" because the Beutler amendment is now back to the two percent I offered or that we voted on which I felt was probably if you're going to make cuts across the board, unfortunately, crude as it is is the only way. But if you will recall I offered another amendment and then I withdrew it and I suggest to you I think it's maybe a less painful way to accomplish essentially the same thing and it goes like this. A one percent across the board and then a delay until January of the state salary employees increase, or I mean the public employees' salary increase. The only variable is as an incentive or as a reward or as a token of whatever, in return for that delay and the savings of multimillions of dollars, the increase in January would be four percent. The benefit for state employees is very obvious. It lays in for the future a little better deal. Now why do this instead of two percent? As I say, if this fails, obviously I am going to support the two percent, crude and clumsy as across the board things are. If you're going to cut to the degree that you can accomplish essentially the same purpose in total dollars with less pain than I guess I think, if you can do her, you should. The state aid programs would be cut one percent less. Your state colleges and your universities would be cut one percent less and you make it up on the hides of state employees as I say, but their reward is they get a little more in January and their future, at least, is a little better. Total dollars, it's well over 10 million. I don't know the exact figure, but in terms of cuts I think it's in the same ballpark and obviously that will still leave the Governor some things he has to make some decisions on. I don't know whether it's going to be a million or \$2 million or \$5 million or \$10 million or \$20 million. It's going to depend upon what the Governor determines, what the Governor determines the total amount necessary is, but it's in the same ballpark as the two percent. It's an alternative idea. I would prefer this method. I would prefer this one because I think it, to use Senator Beutler's quotation of a couple or yesterday, we all got to suffer a little. Well this balances, I think, the suffering a little better between rural and city, between Omaha, Lincoln, the whole package. Lincoln has received the pretty decent treatment this year. I guess you would say they would be the ones that were hurt the most under this particular amendment to be real honest because most public employees are located here and university employees obviously. So I