

suppose you could argue that Lincoln would be the one to get the hardest hit, but remember Lincoln has received awful decent treatment this year. So I think this more equitably distributes the cuts and is a better way, but I will be supporting my original idea if this doesn't go. I'd urge you to adopt the amendment.

SENATOR LAMB: Well we have numerous lights on and we're not quite sure who would like to speak to the DeCamp amendment to the amendment so we'll just run down through the list. Senator Morehead, did you care to...? Next, Senator Haberman, followed by Senator Chizek. Senator Haberman, did you wish to address the DeCamp amendment to the amendment?

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, I feel that the DeCamp amendment, the one and four, is a very, very fair way to handle this entire situation. First of all, we're going to end up by helping the state employees by building a better base for them and we all know that they need this by going four percent the first of January. Also this will save the funds between now and then. A one percent straight across the board cut is a fair cut. If you defeat this and go for a two percent cut we might be destroying things that we don't know about. We can't know everything about everything and two percent is pretty drastic. If you go the two percent we might not really understand the final ramifications of what this is going to do because I have found in the past that when we pass legislation down here, then we go back home and we find out that the county clerks or the cities or whatever finally explain to us what happened. They said, why did you do this? You never ask us what happens on the other end. Also there is a lot of internal things that we cannot even discuss because we don't know anything about it that a two percent cut could destroy. It's dangerous. Now you know that I'm in favor of cutting the budget, but I personally feel in my heart of hearts, as Senator Johnson would say, that a one percent with the exclusions straight across the board and a four percent in January is fair, it's equitable and it's the way we should go. Yes, I have a son in medical school and, yes, I can stand the one percent cut and, yes, I have some state employees that I have coffee with and I'm sure that they would agree that they would much rather wait and get a four percent in January than a three percent now. So let's stop and think about those issues and support the DeCamp amendment and then go ahead.