

Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR LAMB: The next speaker is Senator Schmit followed by Senator Chizek, the DeCamp amendment to the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I'm not going to vote for the DeCamp amendment. I believe the reason is very simple. I'm afraid that John's amendment will not save sufficient funds as he has indicated to allow us to reach the goal that we need. It means the Governor will still have to make some additional cuts. I think we have to go with Senator Beutler's amendment as amended in order to get the numbers down to the range that we're looking at. Now it has been very evident I think on this floor that there is not much sympathy for a tax increase. I think if you go back to your districts you will find that the sympathy back there for a tax increase is even less than it is on this floor. I'd just like to suggest, I know the two percent will cause some problems, but we have done it before. We have done it during the interim. We have met in special session and taken a greater cut than that and it's kind of interesting notwithstanding all the wailing and gnashing of teeth that government continues to lumber along and function. I don't see anyone that is misplaced. I don't see programs that have to be abolished although maybe there are some that should be. I would suggest that there are economies in government just as there are economies in businesses. I have visited with many members of this body. Most of you have told me in your own personal lives, your businesses, you have cut back far more than the two percent we're talking about. We're going to see a continual erosion of resources until something turns around to bring some new money into the state. We haven't seen that. I checked the price of new corn at Bellwood next fall is \$2.32. Now that's 30 cents below what we got for it in 1948. Senator Syas used to tell me, Senator Hall, that I only talked about when prices went down and never when they go up, but I have to say this. The odds are on my side, they've gone down more than they have gone up. I'd like to say also that unless we do this, unless we do what Senator Beutler and others of us who have signed the amendment are interested in, we are going to be held responsible and I don't mind that, that we're going to be held responsible for the tax increase which will have to come. I don't know where else you're going to find the money and I think that