

I'm not going to vote for a two percent across the board cut that has some people in it and others not in it when you can't make any good solid reason to do it other than the political fact of life that some of these groups are very powerful and oppose having a two percent cut. That's not good reason to not cut these individuals. If there is some reason like in retirement or claims which I would include as excluded where you have to pay that money no matter what you do, then I see that they don't need to have a cut because you're going to have to pay that bill. But for all these other programs, these are programs that can be cut as any other program is under the proposed two percent cut. How can you say we cut here but not there when they are basically the same type of service program or what have you? You can't justify it. I hope you listened to Senator Hannibal who got up and I thought gave an excellent speech about how we came to this situation and how it's not fair to have an across the board cut that isn't across the board. It goes somewhat across the board and then stops and says, but we'll let these guys go. That's not fair and that's not equitable and I'm sorry if somebody think that's dumb, but I think it's right and I think that those of you who actually look at what is included in here. Do you know what is included in the exclusions? Do you know why they're included? Do you have a justification for it? If you don't have answers to those questions I suggest you put them back in the cut because you're going to have to explain it later and I think you better know what you're doing. And I again reiterate to you that I'm not trying to harass this bill. Maybe I am a gnat around the bull. There is a lot of bull down here on this floor and I don't mind being a gnat trying to stir it up a little bit. If we're going to try and do something let's do it right and that's what I am suggesting we do and if you are able to see your way clear to have these exclusions put back in the bill, you don't need a two percent cut. A 1.5 percent cut will be all you need to cut and I'd rather hit people with 1.5 percent than two percent. I'm sorry. I think that's probably all you need and I don't see why you have to go further than that and hurt people even more and all that it takes is that you be a little fair in where you cut those budgets instead of just cutting part way, you cut all the way across. Now that's what I am suggesting. That's what I believe is the right thing to do. I know Senator DeCamp has a different proposal that he likes better. Senator Beutler and Senator Vickers like it just the way it is. That's fine, you can