

May 22, 1985

across the board cuts, that would yield us a budget that wouldn't trigger a tax rate increase this year. I would like to know if that is a sufficiently fair statement of the problem that we can formulate with. Senator Hannibal is shaking his head. Maybe he'd like a chance to respond. Senator Hannibal.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Senator Landis, I believe that it would be easier and probably more fair to suggest that the committee come back with an amount of cut commensurate with what the two percent across the board would do. I believe that would be somewhere around \$15 million. Is that correct?

SENATOR LANDIS: I think that would be legitimate.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: I think that would be a fairer thing to do than to suggest that we come back with what we think would be necessary to do in order to eliminate a tax increase because there are very differing figures as to what that amount might be.

SENATOR LANDIS: I think that is a very fair designation. I would be happy to live within that kind of a general understanding myself, personally. Senator Warner is on his feet. That usually means something. His arms are crossed. Perhaps I can phrase the same question to Senator Warner and entice a response.

SENATOR WARNER: Well, essentially the same as Senator Hannibal. I have no problem at all, personally, with the \$15 million as a target figure. However, because you see I don't believe that is enough.

SENATOR LANDIS: All right.

SENATOR WARNER: So I'm not going to put the body in the position of thinking that they made \$15 million of program elimination and that meant no problem next time. Because I don't think the receipts are going to be as good as everybody says. So that is another issue though. Nor do I want to be limited to \$15 million.

SENATOR LANDIS: Fifteen is a floor, not a ceiling.

SENATOR WARNER: I presume...my presumption...floor