

May 22, 1985

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, then Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. President, members, I'm only going to take about two seconds and then turn my time over to Senator Hannibal, who I think would like to discuss the issue. I would just rise in support of the motion, suggest taking just a little bit of time to look at the situation, take the next week to work it out among the Appropriations Committee members, and to come back with some specific recommendations. Maybe the reality of shock treatment, we need to understand just exactly what we are talking about. I think we ought to give them that chance. I'll give Senator Hannibal the rest of my time.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Hannibal.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Mr. President and members, perhaps a brief history of what happened the last hour and a half. As Senator Warner was explaining to you, we did sit down and we did talk. We just started on page one of the book and we said can we really look at cutting the scope of state government because as a committee we have talked, on and off, during this period of time that that is the only way we are going to be able to really get our tax structure in line with our receipts, and not cause a tax increase. We talked about criteria. As Senator Scofield brought up and Senator Warner mentioned to you criteria is very important. What is your measure? We talked about those. We itemized quickly. Remember, we only had an hour and a half. We itemized those things quickly as some of the things that we'd want to look at, whether state government should be involved, what are the other alternatives, will federal funds do it, will community based programs do it, can cash funding handle it, what happens if we do close this program down, do we have duplications within our agencies, can we shift some agency's responsibilities. These are all possibilities, some of the criteria that we looked at, ought state government...should they be involved here. That is the criteria we will try to work by. After we did that we started with page one of your little brown book out here, the budget. We got, in an hour and a half, we got to about page 30, just quickly itemizing some things down. About five minutes or ten minutes before that happened I want to tell you that I made the suggestion, because it occurred to me that if we are going to do this we are going to need more time, I'll take the credit or the