

percentage cut amendment, which he has now withdrawn. Now then what do you wish to do on procedure?

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, what was filed was a rule of suspension that was to apply to the choice of being able to ask for a division of questions on the Appropriations Committee and the like amendment...or like suspension to apply to the across the board 2 percent that was filed. I had presumed that through that, that both alternatives could be dealt with as a package. My indication, as I gather in visiting with Senator Beutler, there are some now who do not want to have the appropriations package go first. They would prefer to do the 2 percent first. If...I'd be glad to yield to Senator Beutler, but my presumption is that if there are not 30 votes to handle it in the way I thought we were going to, which gave everybody a very clear choice between the two, is to just run them separately and see what happens. I don't know how to structure a rule change that...Senator Beutler has an idea, but I have a hard time visualizing it. I'd be glad to yield to Senator Beutler, if he wishes to explain.

PRESIDENT: Very well. Senator Beutler, would you care to enlighten us as to your position on procedure here?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, I have no position on procedure. We had simply made a suggestion to Senator Warner as a means of accommodating two very different strains of thought in the Legislature. Myself and some others who have been interested in this question looked at the Appropriations Committee package this noon and before that, and speaking quite frankly there are some serious reservations that many members of the group had with regard to certain provisions of the Appropriations Committee package, in particular the \$5 million that is coming out of the reserve, which constitutes about one-third of the package. Having grave reservations about the package, speaking frankly again, the group was still strongly in favor of not having a tax increase, and if necessary, doing the 2 percent cut. The group did not want to lose the opportunity to vote on the 2 percent cut. Senator Warner's suggestion that the Appropriations package be amended into the 2 percent cut has, as part of it, the elimination of the 2 percent cut. It substitutes for the 2 percent cut. The group did not feel that it could support a substitution of the Appropriations Committee package for the 2 percent cut