

completely supporting, at least at this time, a vote on the package of the Appropriations Committee proposals and cuts. It was about this same time a week ago, there had been a vote on a 1 percent, 4 percent salary, 1 percent across the board. It failed by one vote after, of course, my good friend Jackie and Senator Pappas changed their minds on that particular issue. It became very clear I think to the entire body, there wasn't anybody had a doubt, wasn't anybody had a doubt that a 2 percent across the board was going to pass whenever it was voted upon. As an alternative, as an alternative, go back and read it, to taking up and voting immediately on a 2 percent. When the Appropriations Committee and other senators became completely aware of the fact that the 2 percent was going to pass, it was agreed 42 or 43 strong in this body with no dissenting votes that rather than use the butcher method which across the board is, which was my original proposal because I contended and still do contend when you do individual things, you just can't seem to muster the ponies to do them. It was agreed. The Appropriations Committee, as an alternative to doing the butcher block method, would go back, would bring us a package of proposals that totaled about 15 million and would provide for no tax increase. You may remember Senator Landis, I think Senator Beutler, some of the others, extracted promises that were publicly given by Senator Warner, I think Senator Hannibal and others, promises that they would go, deal with individual programs with duplication, with specific things as an alternative to the across the board. And so today, May 29th at two-o-two, we are now into the fulfillment or lack of fulfillment, however you judge it ultimately, of the promise made by the Appropriations Committee and agreed to by 42 people voting up on that board. It would seem inappropriate to do anything other than us to be consistent and let the Appropriations Committee offer their program of 15 million, which ostensibly is going to prevent a tax increase, offer it to the body for the body to vote for or against. Again, as a last resort I have no doubt if that fails, I have no doubt if that fails that we will go back to the butcher block method, the 2 percent or whatever. It might be 2.5. But the point is, this entire delay, this entire procedure, the entire thing that was done was for the specific purpose of getting up here that package for us to examine before we went to the butcher block. So I would ask whether you agree or disagree with ultimately that package, that it's only appropriate that that be your vote first, that be your vote