

this Legislature would say that these programs that my amendment attempts to exempt from a cut are unworthy of consideration. Nobody would say they are unworthy. Everybody probably, if they spoke in complete honesty, would say it is unfortunate that these programs are being caught in the meat grinder which the Legislature at this point has become. Everybody would say that if there were literal gears, large gears in a piece of heavy equipment spinning and meshing their teeth, I don't think there is a person on this floor who would take a living baby and drop that baby into those gears. We can see that and we would hear sounds that we did not want to deal with. But when we look at these programs that deal with flesh and blood people and we can persuade ourselves to only see numbers on paper, then it is easy to cut the programs and say it is a part of a deal that was made. There have been deals made throughout history that the people who made them either personally regretted later or history has come to condemn. There was a man named Quisling who made a deal with the Nazis and his name stands for traitor. There was an upstanding Christian gentleman, an American named Benedict Arnold, who believed more in the British than he did in the American cause and his name stands for traitor. There was a man, one of twelve, who followed a person who was supposed to have walked on water, fed the sick, healed the...fed the hungry and healed the sick, and his name was Judas and his name is synonymous with betrayer. The Legislature will disregard all of those lessons and say that the deal, the form of the deal is more important than the substance of the issues that the Legislature is supposed to contend with. Senator Haberman spoke of integrity of this body. The reasons given for voting against this amendment do not show integrity, those reasons show the opposite. Those reasons show that the nature of the issue before us will not be looked at, at all. I know that I am going to be voted down on a lot of issues in the remaining five days. But in the same way that you all can form combines, confederacies, syndicates, gangs, mobs, or whatever, I am still going to push forward and try to do what I think is my responsibility to do. An individual said, if only for once, if only for once a flock of sheep could behave like a pride of lions, that is what I wish could happen here today. People are finding every way available to hide from issues. In the background looms the Governor, looms the Republican Party, looms these little chintzy coalitions that develop here in this Legislature that are laughable, little children running around in the