

maybe it is time to advance the Appropriations bill on and get this over with and face up to whatever comes next. I still don't think you need a tax increase because, I think like the 20 or 21 states that have reserve funds, they consider their reserve funds in their tax setting rates as part of the reserves. That would make sure you didn't have a tax cut...tax increase. But you are quickly getting the position where it almost looks like nobody really intended seriously to cut, and now that you are at the reality of it you want to figure ways to avoid it. The way to really do that cut was to live up to that original agreement. Stand up here, vote it up or down on the Appropriations Committee, then if you wanted to take out certain things, or add certain things in, you could do it. But every trick in the book has been used to prevent that ever happening today, so I question whether that original agreement was done with any sincerity or intent.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. Speaker, I'll try and be brief. This is an issue we've rehashed several times, but I'll just try and restate my position. Senator Chambers and I are on the same wave length on this. Unlike other issues in the last few months where we disagree, this is one example where we do agree. Where we agree is this, if you are going to have an across the board cut then that cut should extend across the board. What is being proposed by Senator Beutler is a somewhat across the board cut that leaves over \$100 million out of that cut, which includes NCCY, which is in my district, which is close to where I live and which I am very familiar with and is a very worthy program. But if you are going to have an across the board cut, it and every other program ought to be included. I see no room for exclusions other than perhaps a claim or perhaps a retirement system where you have an obligation you have no choice but to meet. So, as I have said before, I can't support in any way shape or form any across the board cut that does not have everybody included. When you have any exemptions I think you are making a serious mistake. Senator Chambers has made that point not only with this amendment but also with the fact that he tried to remove from the cuts the assistance program, public assistance programs which are very important programs, which are still in there, which are being cut, while these other exemptions are out there they are very important, but they are no more important than those public