

whether it is necessary to go through, and this kind of process eliminates without input even from these agencies, or from the people who run these programs and eliminate them, without considering whether you shouldn't just cut 1 or 2 percent instead from all programs. Now it seems to me that the work that they did was good work, good work, and that it is the work that should be done for next year. It is the process that should be done for next year when they have a summer and the fall, the agencies can come in and defend themselves. They can talk about their programs. It is not a three day deal. Believe me, it is not really intelligent to do this in three days, although I grant that they had not much choice in terms of their time. But they did have a choice as between the wholesale cutting of programs and agencies and simply reducing all agencies by 1 or 2 percent and making that a major part of the amendment, and they chose not to do that and I think that was an error. So that particular error, I think, is a serious omission in this particular proposition. I'm not sure that it is correct to proceed to cut the agencies that they are proceeding to cut in this manner. Secondly, when everything was said and done, although they hadn't spent two seconds discussing it the three days that I watched, a total of one-third of the entire 15 million, one-third of the entire 15 million represents this idea of stealing money out of the reserve and deferring \$5 million for one year. Well, you may recall that when we debated this all the first round of debates, and thereafter, everybody in the Appropriations Committee was against deferment...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...because Jerry Warner and the Appropriations Committee was telling us how bad it is going to be next year, how terrible it is going to be next year. We don't want to defer anymore and make it any worse. But here one-third of their entire proposal is a deferment. That is another reason why I feel that across the board 2 percent is probably preferable. I have some other comments I would like to make about specific items my next time around, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Chambers, then Senator Lamb.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, we are approaching the moment of something or