

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Haberman, then Senator Morehead.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, we have been on this issue for a long, long time and we did it by the process. We took votes on each of these five agencies and five programs and the votes were anywhere from 14 in favor to maybe 20 in favor. The majority of the body showed that they wanted to make these cuts. Basically, everybody has had a shot at what they wanted to do and those of you who supported in the first place the elimination of the agencies, the elimination of the athletics and the Displaced Homemakers, you made a decision and I haven't seen anything that has been put before you to have you change your mind. Now it is getting down to the point to this body that we are going to have to come back to the little speech I made earlier of the integrity of this body, when are you going to quit playing games, quit maneuvering and have this body face up to the decision has been made, we are running out of time, we are putting...endangering, we are endangering many, many bills. We are endangering the whole process. We are endangering the possibility of any vetoes we might want to override, or not override, by this continuous stalling, stalling, stalling, and that is all it is a stalling practice. The body is not living up to what basically we are here for. Now when you lose, you lose, and when you lose on a 14 to 32 vote or a 14 to 29 vote, you lose. And I accept that. If you don't win, you don't win. It also says the amendments reduce the state operations funding from zero to as shown on the attached sheet. There is no attached sheet. You don't know what you are doing to these agencies. You don't know what agencies are going to get hurt. This amendment is too big, too fast and it is not understandable. It has been presented to you as some sort of a revenue neutralization. They are using words that we have never even heard of before and I don't even know how you can do those sort of things, get a revenue neutralization. I just don't believe in this. So I say, let's go ahead, don't reconsider. Try the budget which we have been trying for, which we said we were going to try for and then push on ahead because everybody has had a shot and to come up with a new maneuver like this, quite frankly, is not in my book the proper thing to do. So I ask you to vote no.

PRESIDENT MCGINLEY PRESIDING