

PRESIDENT: Senator Morehead.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Mr. President, members of the body, contrary to Senator Haberman and Senator DeCamp, I am asking you to vote yes to allow this substitution. I remember standing here on the floor last year and saying, well, you all want to participate in the appropriations process and we divided the issue at that time and took them one by one, but it went a lot smoother than this year and we participated, but we are really participating this year. But it is good for us. It is a good catharsis. We needed it, but we need to make changes too, just as with life. You go down life's path and you think you have a plan all laid in front of you and all of a sudden something changes and you have to change directions. Well, I think we have come to the time where everybody has had a chance to look at the issues a little more clearly, to maybe sit back and think about them a little more clearly, to understand if you didn't understand what the implications of these cuts are in relation to tax raises or to across the board types of increases and I think this is the time for us to be introspective and say, okay, let's make a small change, let's allow for this substitution of amendments because it addresses many of the concerns that are here. Now I can say that I did not like the commitment of a million three that the majority of this membership just made because it is a million three. But if we are going to spend a million three because the majority of this body wants to for one program, then I think we better look at these programs which touch a greater perspective of lives in our state and if we can keep it revenue neutral and adjust it, then this is the time for us to say, we can bend. You all bend when you are raising your families. You may have a hard, fast rule and say, nobody will do this, and all of a sudden something comes along and you have to change. You have to recognize that there is a time for change. And I think this is the time for us take a look at this amendment. Let's allow for its introduction, take a look at it because we know it is important to people and it has become more important to people on the basis of what has transpired on this floor as we have gone along. Now maybe earlier we could not have done this because things have not taken their course of events. But now that things have taken the course of events, let's take this, allow for its introduction, make a decision on it and go from there. I ask for you to allow that it be introduced. Thank you.