

because that kind of a process has ended.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Marsh. But first, Senator Marsh, (gavel). Gentlemen, please hold it down. I hate to keep nagging you, but you are a little loud. Senator Marsh, please.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. I appreciate Senator bringing the issue before us. I hope he will be watching the Appropriations Committee as we go through the summer program, this interim study which certainly needs all the help and concerned senators' concern and interest, and perhaps time and energy as well. It is not something that should be done tonight. An area should not be penalized because their local governing boards have made an extraordinary effort to help with the program. On the contrary, we don't want to penalize any area. We want to help all of them have success stories. We are going to have to go another year, so please be patient with us and tell your area you made the effort to try, but I must vote against the amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. Most of what I was going to say Senator Lynch already said. As Senator DeCamp and Senator Conway were standing down there, laughing uproariously, I think you all saw me down there, I said, what are you two guys trying to do with this bill? I said, you come up at the last minute with this, and John just said again, he said, we're stealing, we don't really have any justification for this, we are stealing from Region 6 because we need \$100,000. John, will you please talk on your own time. Senator Conway, Senator DeCamp both stood there and told me and Lynch we are stealing. Senator Elroy Hefner said to me jokingly, if you give me a vote on this, Marge, I'll get you some peanut clusters. Now wouldn't that be nice to trade a couple of peanut clusters for \$100,000. We city slickers aren't that dumb, Senator Elroy. But the fact remains the hour is late, this is a serious matter. Why is Region 4 short of money? Region 6 gives 14 percent of their county tax dollars to support the retarded. I don't care whether you believe in supporting the retarded or not, I don't care whether you believe in whether they deserve the best of what life can give those poor people, but the point is our five counties gives 14 percent to