

SENATOR HIGGINS: It's that barking dog. Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Lynch, would you yield to a question, please?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lynch, would you respond, please.

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Senator, as I read your handout I want to make sure that I understand it. Is it your recommendation that we use...or that the Appropriations Committee use only Touche-Ross reports, studies?

SENATOR LYNCH: Well, I hope that the Appropriations Committee or the study group would use all the information available. There are two Touche-Ross reports. My amendment simply suggests that they use both for both the local community programs and the institution settings as well.

SENATOR HIGGINS: You mean just consider them, not mandate that they use them.

SENATOR LYNCH: No, the budgets wouldn't apply. I'm not suggesting that they should, but it would certainly provide the information they need to compare, without which they couldn't honestly compare.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Well, I want to understand why we want to make this part of a law, part of the...

SENATOR LYNCH: Senator, I'm about that far away from withdrawing my amendment. But I would like to...

SENATOR HIGGINS: I'm not questioning you to embarrass you, believe me.

SENATOR LYNCH: No, no, no, but I think it is probably hard for some...

SENATOR HIGGINS: I think it's a good suggestion that they look at Touche-Ross, as you suggested, and they see how they do it. Perhaps with no disrespect to the Appropriations Committee there might be some things in those reports they would look at that they might not ordinarily think about. Wasn't that your thinking when you offered the amendment?