

appropriation three percent greater than the actual appropriation needed so that we set tax rates around that contemplated higher budget. In fact, this year, we had a so called five percent reserve or almost five percent reserve and yet by the end of the year we found or by the end of the year we are finding that because of weaker projections we simply aren't going to have the revenues that we originally contemplated so we feel blest to have a five percent reserve built into our initial calculation. Well it would appear from what is happening with the way we are on appropriations and with the way our revenue projections are that we are going to have a three percent honest to goodness reserve. But it also appears that we don't take into consideration the rainy day money that we have set aside and on which we earn interest and which we put into the fund. I think that the honest way of budgeting is to start calculating the cash reserve fund into our overall reserve equation. Now incidentally once those calculations are made it is quite possible that a three to seven percent reserve figure is no longer the better amounts. Maybe it should be a five percent and a nine percent reserve figure. But the cash reserve fund is as much a part of our overall projection on rate increases and rate needs as is the actual statutory reserve that we have on the books. I think the kind of change that Senator DeCamp and I are contemplating is a healthy change, is a good change and is responsible. I would ask you to support it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Morehead. Senator Hannibal is next.

SENATOR MOREHEAD: Mr. President and members of the body, this is that infamous DeCamp-Vard Johnson amendment that we have been hearing about on the floor this morning. I rise in opposition and I'm wondering where all of our "business leaders" are out there? I think this is akin to the shell game that you play at the local carnival, for all of you who have been sucked into that shell game at one time or another, now you see it now you don't and the thing that you don't see is your money, most of all, as it very swiftly disappears. This is a monetary figure type of calculation that leads you to believe one thing when in actuality another exists. Now if we would have wanted to consider the cash reserve fund as a part of the over levy to begin with, we would have set that amendment up that way when, as Senator DeCamp said, a few days ago his amendment and my amendment was adopted, which established the cash reserve