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wrong with trying a new idea? It is merely a new idea. It isn't mandatory. Anybody that doesn't want to serve on that budget committee doesn't have to. But at the same time, what would be the effect on other governmental subdivisions and on other programs if they knew we don't just have to go before the Appropriations Committee and give them these sheets of figures and not a detailed explanation? So I think it would be a good idea if they were put on notice. You never know when another committee of the Legislature may call you in and say, we want to discuss in detail the budget. I think it would be great to try it, at least on an experimental basis. This isn't set in iron or concrete.

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR HIGGINS: So I would support this rules change and hope that the rest of the body would feel like, let's be a little innovative and try something new. Heaven only knows how much knowledge we might gain from it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Cal Carsten, please.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise in opposition to the proposed amendment. It has been interesting listening to the conversation here this afternoon, particularly from the newer senators who have not been here as long as some of us have and I share with you that those older ones of us when we came in had somewhat of the same feelings that you have. However, I think that Senator Warner laid the picture out very well. From the beginning of this institution down to today, the process I think has worked quite well and has proved itself. I would also suggest to you that there is nothing compulsory that is now on the books that makes any one of the Legislature...legislators attend a briefing of the Appropriations Committee, which for several years the Appropriations Committee has done, have set aside a couple of nights for those of you who are concerned, uninformed, would like to have more knowledge, and welcome you to come in and ask the committee or staff if they will answer your questions for you. So I think if your interest is really there and it is deep enough that our present structure would satisfy that if you made use of it, I would certainly foresee a cluttered up mess greater than we have now if we go the route that is proposed with this amendment. I hope