

determining what those amendments should be. It would be no different than we do in a special session, which somebody has eluded to that we've had to do, but it would, I think, if we adopted this particular proposal, it would put into place the mechanism whereby, number one, our state agencies could begin to make some plans for the next year, based on something the Legislature has agreed to; and, number two, still not take the ability away from us to adjust those plans as necessary based on the economy. But I also agree with Senator Warner's suggestion that if we would do this it wouldn't be so easy, the second year, to come in and raise the budget a bunch either. I've made the statement before and I'll make it again, the sun is going to shine again, the economy will turn around. I don't know when, but I've got to be optimistic or I couldn't keep going. I've got to psych myself up to be optimistic in order to go into the banker in another two or three weeks. But the fact of the matter is it will get better, and when it gets better, and when we suddenly have more money than we thought we were going to have it might have been a good idea if we have a plan already in place so it isn't quite so tempting to raise the budget. I urge you to reject the motion before us. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Goll to address the motion to indefinitely postpone.

SENATOR GOLL: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I don't want to in any way be redundant. The issue has been spoken to. But I do want to echo those statements made by Senators Lundy, Scofield, Hannibal, and Senator Warner. It has been my privilege now to serve on the Appropriations Committee for two years. I want you to know that I've been aghast at the budget preparation cost that goes on in state government. There is absolutely no question in my mind, none whatsoever, that a two-year budget process is in order. You know many times those of us who are in business wait until the roof leaks and then we spend money fixing the roof. That has happened to me, and I didn't have the money to prepare for the full roof repair, so we repaired half of it. And this year we are going to repair the other half, and next year we're going to repair half of another building. Those are my plans and I think that is the way state government is going to have to go. We can't go just year, to year, to year and mouth to mouth. A two-year budget preparation is absolutely vital. I urge you not, at this time, to