

\$300,050. At this time I would offer that amendment for your consideration, your debate, and your support.

PRESIDENT: Anyone wish to speak on the \$350,000 amendment?  
Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I hate to always rise in opposition, and I'm not really rising in opposition, but rising in concern. As I recall, the...as I understand, this will come through the Legislative Council funding. And as I recall the presentation for the budget to the Budget Committee, we were, in light of the next session being a long session, the 90 day session, we were going to be on a pretty tight financial funding for the Legislative Council. And while I am new on the Executive Board at this point, I do know that there is not going to be a lot of money to spend, other than on the very operations of the Legislature. So I guess my concern is that we are careful, and if need be I would much prefer to go to the General Fund for a regular, straight-up appropriation as opposed to robbing our legislative appropriation process to do this job. That is my concern, not that I am objecting. I think it is wise that we do it over two years as opposed to making the appropriate...or providing for the appropriation in one year. But I raise that concern, and perhaps we can address that at some later point, and maybe Senator Johnson would like to answer that.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Sure.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, do you wish to speak on this \$350,000 amendment?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes. You know it is a \$50,000 question. I guess I would rise in support of Senator Carsten's concern. Senator Warner is going to follow and say that we've got the money in the budget. But there has been a letter sent to Senator Carsten asking that freshmen be allowed to have two staff people. That is going to cost some money that we weren't anticipating. Senator Warner, I think, is the expert on the budget. But it seems to me that before we talk about expending \$350,000 we ought to know exactly what we are talking about. I feel like I was pretty cheap when I came before you and asked for \$30,000 to do that economic development study. I should have been more aggressive, I guess. That seems like a lot of