

squarely and honestly. We are going to have to take a look at cutting out programs and I can tell you again, from experience of 18 years, what programs will go, those programs least able to defend themselves will go. We are going to have a very difficult time, a very difficult time indeed to trim back 11 or \$12 million of programs or maybe 30 or 40 million. I ask you here as individuals, have you ever sat down across the desk at the bank and said I need X number of dollars and the bank says, no, you have to do without? And what do you do? You go back and you readjust and you do something different and you get along. That's what thousands and thousands of people in this state are doing today. That's what tens of thousands of people in the Middle West are doing. I can guarantee you, I can guarantee you that this state can function with 3 percent less employees. Now if there is anyone here who sincerely believes we cannot, go to your conscience. I am as loyal to those employees as any member of this body. I'm not going to go into that anymore and I regret and I resent just a little bit the implication that I'm a little bit on the dense side and don't understand what is going on, but when you put the dipper in the bucket and the bucket is empty, you can bang the dipper against the bucket as long as you want to and there is not going to be any more money there. I'm not a fiscal analyst, I'm not an accountant, I am not a financial expert, but I can tell you by looking at the numbers that I can take a ten-penny nail and scratch on the barn door and tell you you are farther off from fiscal solvency than you think you are and I don't need any computer to tell me that and I don't need any economic forecasters to tell me that. I can tell you that by walking down the street of David City or Columbus and looking in the eyes of my constituents. I can tell by going to a farm sale and looking in the eyes of those farmers of that sale. I can tell it by looking at the eyes of the people who come out of church on Sunday morning and the rest of you can do it also. Now you can live in a kind of euphoric atmosphere if you like, but it reminds me a little bit about I used to go out in the feedlot on a spring morning after a heavy rain and I'd wade into the mud until all of a sudden I'd find out that the mud was over my boots and I'd wished I hadn't taken that last step and by the time I twisted around and tried to get back to solid ground and left a boot or two out in the middle of the feedlot, I was really sorry I had taken those extra steps. We have built ourselves a program which is desirable, which is laudable, maybe in some cases necessary for normal times. Ladies and gentlemen, we are not in normal times. Senator DeCamp has pointed out to you some of the realities and impact upon businesses, not just