

question between the two because the two are unique. They are a little bit different and in the spirit of what we have been doing anyway so we can debate each one of them separately it kind of hard to debate a watershed on the one hand and the buses on the other hand, so I would ask that the question be divided.

PRESIDENT: The question is divisible and it shall be divided. We proceed then to discuss the Metropolitan Area Transport reduction of \$800,000. But first I would like to introduce some guests of Senator Rupp, 16 eighth graders from Humphrey St. Francis with their teacher with them. If you folks would stand, we would like to have you know that you are welcome to the Legislature. Senator Schmit, do you wish to speak on the bus transit MAT, bus service line?

SENATOR SCHMIT: We are going to divide the question, Mr. President, I will wait a little bit. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Very well. Senator DeCamp. Senator Hall, do you wish to speak on the MAT issue?

SENATOR HALL: Yes. Mr. President and members...

PRESIDENT: May we have order in the Chamber, please, so we can hear the speaker. (Gavel.) Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President and members, I am the parochial person who passed out the Metro Area Transit material and had I known that things were going to go along as smoothly as they have to date, I would have saved the Legislative Council the cost of duplicating this fifty times over. With that, I would urge the body to adopt this proposal to override the Governor's veto, the \$800,000 to Metro Area Transit, for one reason and one reason only, because of the loss of the federal funds. That is, in my mind, a very good reason. It is also the only reason. We are talking about the loss of about \$4.5 million in this case if we do not appropriate the money at this time. With that, seeing the handout that I have given to you, we have talked about the situation, Senator Warner touched on the budget cuts that the Transit Authority has experienced in the last year and a half down here at the last special session. The loss of the federal funds, I think, is as good a reason as any. It only makes sense economically and fiscally for the body to appropriate this small amount to receive the benefit from the 4.5 million. I would urge the body to adopt it.