

budget. Then they refused to appropriate for the contingency of a special session. So what I am suggesting to you is that the \$171,000 for the special sessions be deducted from the overall amount that is expected from the Legislature, \$210,000, and that we then deduct from the legislative budget an additional amount necessary to reach the total 3 percent and that additional amount is set out for you in the handout that I passed out to you. That is proposition number one and that is fair. Proposition number two, so you get a sense of how things are going to go, I will propose to you that we at least credit ourselves for half of the costs of the special session and proposition number three will suggest a 3 percent cut to you which is the 3 percent cut that the Executive Board proposed to the Appropriations Committee and not cut the Ombudsman's Office. Okay, so those are going to be the three propositions. But I would like to argue very strongly with you that you look to what is fair and you look at the costs that we did incur and we are incurring right now and those costs are costs are coming out of our budget, your individual senatorial budgets, our overall budget and if you're not willing to credit yourself for the time and expense you put in here, then I must think that you think very little of what you're doing. The money has been well spent. The money has, in fact, been spent. It's money we will not have elsewhere. It represents truly a cut back and sacrifice on the part of the Legislature. So with that, I would recommend for your adoption amendment number one which is before you.

SENATOR LAMB: The body is debating the Beutler amendment to the committee amendments. Senator Wesely, did you care to address the committee amendment, or the Beutler amendment?

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, Mr. President, members, I would support the Beutler amendment and discuss generally the situation we're in with the budget. Senator Beutler, I think, has ably talked about the impact of this budget cut on our operation here in the Legislature. I think we clearly did cut the budget last session. We tried as best we could to meet the demands of the times which was to have efficiency in government and we did see a reduction in our budget at the end of the session last May. We're now in a situation where again we're looking at further cuts and I think as you'll find in this case and as you'll find in case after case after case as we work our way through the budget, we have hit down below the fat and are hitting bone and