

when you vote on Senator Beutler's amendment and vote for his amendment, because what is fair is fair, and what is right is right, and it is no more than right that this body recover their loss for that first Special Session. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Abboud on the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR ABOUDD: Mr. President, and colleagues, Nebraska isn't the only state that is having these budgetary problems. I have looked with admiration at some of the other states that have dealt with this problem. I know across the river in Iowa Governor Branstad came in and said, well, we have to make these cuts, and he cut a little over 3 percent of the budget. A decision was made. There was a little bit of anguish that you read about in the press and the decision was made. Now in the Nebraska Unicameral, we have spent a little over two hours discussing one particular part of an agency, Agency 3, and it doesn't look like we are going to be through with this before noon. We have a number of agencies we are going to be considering, over 56. We are going to have some very controversial agencies...agency cuts we are going to be looking at. We are going to be getting into Policy Research in the Governor's Office. We are going to be looking at the Department of Public Institutions, Mental Retardation, Department of Social Services, and then finally the University and State Colleges. I think it is unfortunate that this situation has occurred but it did occur. The Governor gave us a particular proposal. He said approximately cut 3 percent of the budget and maybe we can survive this particular tough economic times that we are going through. My belief is that the Appropriations Committee gave us some cuts that I don't believe the majority of us are going to swallow, and I don't know who is responsible for it. I supported the cut on the State Ombudsman's Office with the Appropriation Committee's recommendation but I don't think some of these cuts are realistic. I think that they are not realistic because some of the people in this body don't believe that these cuts were made fairly. I think we would have been more in line if we had taken some of the cuts more across-the-board instead of picking out some of these agencies. Another approach which I thought was a good idea was to take some of that rainy day fund, that \$21.5 million, use all that money up that we saved when we had some money, and then come back