

next session and take a look at where we stand. We are going to be short some money this coming fiscal year but the approach that we are going through right now just isn't going to work. And if we go at the same rate, we are going to be here until Christmas, then we are going to adjourn one week and then come back in January, and I don't feel that the people in the state want a tax increase. And I think that maybe we have to take a closer look at what some of Governor Kerrey's proposals were. I don't necessarily agree with them but I think they would be more in line with what the majority in this body will support and I think we have to look at it or else I feel we will be faced with the unfortunate situation of having to look at a tax increase. I don't feel the majority of the people in this state want an income tax increase, and my concern is that we have got a budget that was so unsupported, that would be so unsupported by the members of this body that it would force us into the situation of having to have an income tax increase, and I resent that. I resent it very much. I think the State Ombudsman's Office is one example of what we are going to be talking about here in the coming weeks. Thank you.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Conway, please. The question has been called for. Do I see five seconds? I do. Those in support of ceasing debate vote aye, those (microphone off). Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR LAMB: Debate is ceased. Senator Beutler, to close on the amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, and members of the Legislature, Senator Abboud made a good point. He said the process as we have heard it this morning is not realistic and I want to add something further to that. The process that we have seen this morning is not even smart, not even smart. Let me tell you what I mean, and I don't think I am being too strong. The Executive Board sent to the Appropriations Committee this whole list of cuts that you have before you. Okay, we sent them this. We said the legislative process will not suffer if you make these cuts, and the Appropriations Committee or somebody on the Appropriations Committee said let's cut the Ombudsman's Office instead. And then I asked members of the Appropriations Committee, but when you went through this