

process then, did you compare the Ombudsman's Office with this list of cuts that was given to you by the Executive Board? Did you weigh the alternatives? And do you know what they said, believe it or not, do you know what they said? We didn't ask any questions about what these cuts were. When I testified before the committee, they didn't ask me any questions about what these cuts were. When they had their internal discussions, they didn't ask themselves what these cuts were. Now how can you have a process that takes the recommendation of the agency head and doesn't even compare it to their own particular philosophy about what should be done. They didn't even make the comparison. They just decided right out there philosophically Ombudsman's Office bad, cut it. Did they ask themselves, for example, that the cut in the Clerk's Office that sends fewer pamphlets to the tourists, is that more important than the Ombudsman's Office, that is one of the things we cut in here. Did they ask themselves whether printing 950 copies of the bills instead of 1,000 is more important than the Ombudsman's Office? Did they ask themselves those critical questions? No, they did not. And I submit to you that those are, in fact, critical questions because you are trying to ask yourself the questions of what is least important, and I submit to you that the cuts that are proposed here in this amendment are less important to you and less important to this institution than cutting out the Ombudsman's Office. Surely, it would have been fair to the Legislature to at least have made a comparison but they didn't even go that far. I would ask adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR LAMB: The motion is the adoption of the Beutler amendment. Those in support vote aye, those opposed vote nay. Twenty-five votes required. Have you all voted? Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, I would have to ask for a call of the house and a roll call vote.

SENATOR LAMB: A call of the house has been requested. All those in support vote aye, those opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 24 ayes, 0 nays to go under call, Mr. President.

SENATOR LAMB: The house is under call. All Senators please