

October 31, 1985

special sessions, one regular session, but correct me if I'm wrong. I understand there has been a special session every year or at least six out of the last seven years. That's right. Can't take the credit or the blame for that, but it indicates something. Somewhere along the line somebody apparently was very cowardly. Somebody apparently didn't do their duty because we keep doing things on a piecemeal basis. Apparently you don't want to look towards tomorrow. You want to come into session and get out of here as quick as you can I guess. Do the easy things, but not really consider those things that have to be done. You see, what I think is cowardly is to come down here and make it look like you're trying to do something worthwhile when all you are really doing is looking towards tomorrow, maybe the next day, maybe next week and then getting the heck out of here and then going back home and saying, well, we made a few cuts, folks, and that will take care of us until next week. Maybe we might have to come back again next month for a special session to think about tomorrow again, but that is cowardly in my opinion and that certainly isn't duty in my opinion either. Your duty is to do more than to think about what might happen next week. And if you don't understand what you're doing, if you don't understand what the real meaning of budget cuts are, then you shouldn't be here at all. You shouldn't be here at all. Yesterday was probably what happened, something that happened caused me to do this. Vard Johnson probably made as good a pitch, good or bad, that I've ever heard on the floor about why you shouldn't cut the Department of Revenue. It was foolhardy. It was tripping over dollars saving pennies. It was a total disservice to this state and everybody in it, but you had to do it, you see, because your duty was that you already told people back home you were going to vote for straight across-the-board 3 percent cuts. What kind of responsibility is that? You don't want to talk in meaningful terms or even listen to the kind of very logical and intelligent debate and argument like Vard made, to protect those funds so you could save what? \$3 million. Going to save \$3,000 by making the cuts and you are going waste \$3 million and in my opinion, probably more. You probably should increase their budget \$300,000 so maybe we can save six. But that's the kind of logic, I guess, that exists here. That's politics, you see. That's not being responsible. That's being cowardly. That's not dutiful at all. So in my opinion, until we're willing to be, I think, responsible we probably ought to go home because we're just