

once did where you can provide for that. The University is down to a point where programs have to be curtailed or services cut. We have cut that budget. It is not there with excess monies sitting around to be utilized if budget cuts result. As a result there has to be some consequences, and those who support budget cuts need to start to accept those consequences. I, personally, feel that the ag extension program and the Curtis program are good programs. I hope they aren't cut. At the same time I think the inconsistency some individuals are showing here ought to be portrayed just as it is. I also think you ought to realize that across-the-board cuts will end up with consequences, at this moment you have no idea what they will be. Just as last May when you cut budgets you saw eventual cuts that people were upset about and claimed they didn't know about but which were part of an across-the-board cut or an unspecified cut. If you look at this budget cut proposal, there are many areas in which we have no idea what programs will be eliminated, what services curtailed, what will be changed. That will all happen after the fact. When it happens many of you will not like what happens. But if you support the budget cuts, you are responsible for those eventual actions and you must understand that. Any time you have across-the-board cuts, any time you have any budget cut, something has to give. When that gives I think we ought to be the ones to shoulder that responsibility and not have to try and blame somebody else for what really is our action.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Withem, then Senator Warner.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. President, members of the body, I was downstairs listening when this amendment was brought to your attention. I felt like I needed to come upstairs and say something about it. Quite frankly I thought I might have been the only one to do so. I've enjoyed hearing the remarks of Senator Hannibal and Senator Wesely. I agree with them wholeheartedly. I rise to oppose this amendment, not because I am opposed to these particular programs. They are probably very good programs, although frankly I would question whether some of the money spent on the Extension Service in my own community, helping urban lawn growers such as myself, is the best use of our tax money at this point. But by and large they probably are good programs. I rise against this though because what we are doing is once again attempting to do the tough job that the Board of Regents is