

year before, the first time within living memory. No one can say that we have been insensitive to the situations of this state. If you have taken offense at the Schwendiman argument in that letter, and I can understand why you would, the point is we're not making these votes on the basis for or against that letter, that's a straw man. If the argument is that somehow we're offering under those delusions and somehow the notion is that we think it's easy, nobody in this body thinks it's easy. Senator Hall certainly doesn't. Senator Rupp certainly doesn't. Senator Chambers certainly doesn't and I don't either. I have other options I would pursue rather than this one. I don't claim that agriculture is in great straits and that these are times just like any other. I am concerned for what exists out there, but government continues to serve people. You know there is DPI money here as well. \$2.3 million for public institutions who care for people in need and in tough times there will be lots of people in need. Government has to continue to operate and to provide service and to care for people, particularly when the times get rough, and they are. I'm not under the delusion that they aren't. Nobody here is and as far as I'm concerned those arguments are straw man arguments. Nobody has raised them on the floor. Nobody said we're tax happy and we'd love to be able to do this. It's simply that from among our options, this is the most humane, the most compassionate and at the same time, the one that reaches to the horizon that lifts our eyes from the here and now...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...and prepares state government to solve problems, not simply to limp through and survive from patch to patch, as Tim Hall called them. I support this reconsideration motion. I support and applaud the place where it came from, the conviction that it takes to offer it, to speak for it and devote for it and I hope there will be 33 others who can do the same.

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DECAMP: (Response inaudible.)

PRESIDENT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. Senator Schmit, for what purpose do you rise?