

here today and you will find in there 10, 20, 30, 35 million dollars that is in each and every instance an advocacy for some kind of program. You can drop back to the final page...

SPEAKER NICHOL: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...and you can get the entire amount of money needed for the budget balancing process without even...by just taking one-half of what I have talked about, or one-third. I suggest that is a far better solution than to take from those who are least able to fight back.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator DeCamp, then Senator Hall.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President and members, if ever there was an example and a situation where the Legislature could affect its future, it's on the subject of the advocacy commissions, and I would submit to you that unless you destroy them completely, and those are hard words, but unless you essentially eliminate them, all you're doing by simply cutting them is compounding your future problems. If ever the situation of a wounded animal being more dangerous than a live and living one and a healthy one, it is the situation of advocacy commissions and government programs in general. Once wounded, once wounded, they come back with a strength, with an ability, with an intensity that guarantees their continued existence. How many times have we simply wounded these commissions? Now forget the merits of them for just a moment. Let's presume George believes they are the greatest things in the world and Sam believes they are a waste of time. The fact is, if you believe they should be eliminated, then don't do it halfway. And whether you accept the committee proposal or the Governor's proposal or the Landis proposal, the one thing you are guaranteeing is they are sitting here wounded, and wounded, they will take your time next session and keep you from dealing with major problems. So rather, I would submit to you, rather than simply throw one more arrow into them and prod them a little further, that you take the bold step and the bold step is elimination. So I'm not supporting anything except the amendment I have up there, elimination of their funds. Take the hard road because the hard road now makes the easy road in '87, '88, '89 and '90. Now if you disagree with elimination, if you disagree with elimination, then for God's sake quit playing this game of shooting arrows at them and cutting off their toes, tweaking them, because all you're doing then is ensuring that all the funds they do have and all the strength and time and effort they have available goes into one thing, not their job,