

conversation these last two days about the foolishness of the Nebraska Legislature being in session. We have been subjected to sine die motion after sine die motion. We have been subjected to adjournment motion after adjournment motion. We have been told that we will be kept here through Christmas, if not New Years, because we have the audacity, the temerity, the Chutzpah, if you will, to even suggest reducing the level of appropriations that we made at the conclusion of our session in April 1986. We made those appropriations in April 1986, because we had received revenue projections from the Economic Advisory Forecasting Board that were \$35 million higher than their projections as of July, 1986. We made those appropriations based upon facts and figures that we were given in April, 1986. Those facts and figures were in error, not consciously in error, not deliberately in error, not any deceit, misrepresentation, or what have you, but they represented an ill-conceived judgment at the time that they were made. We have come back into special legislative session because the revenue projections were off \$35 million. And it is only fitting and appropriate for us to reexamine our basic appropriational document and to make a decision with respect to reductions in the appropriational document, to make a decision with respect to reductions in the document so that we can fit our expenditures within what we now know about our revenue, and we know that our revenue is down. I submit that the kind of work that has been done by the Appropriations Committee, some of which I disagree with, but most of which I agree with, is responsible, is appropriate, and is wise. Now, the decision to reduce the level of the increase in the area of mental retardation is politically difficult, but probably is legislatively appropriate, not because you and I want to pick on the least able to defend himself or herself, but rather because you and I know that our state needs to have a budget which is in keeping, which is in keeping with the income levels of our state and the ability of our state to sustain government. There are times when, in fact, you've got to stay the course and you've got to make those midterm adjustments. This is a midterm adjustment. I think it is a responsible adjustment. It reduces the level of the increase. It reduces the level of the increase. It does not decrease mental retardation budgets from last year. It reduces the level of the increase. Any time a member offers a sine die motion, I'm going to vote against it. Any time a member says this is all political games, this is all chicanery, I'm going to stand up and speak, I'm going to say we are but politicians trying to carry out the popular will, trying to do the best that we can with the resources that we have, and it is our duty and