

person's viewpoint. I know of no expenditure for state government that is not essential in somebody's viewpoint, and, you know, how do I answer that? One man's judgment is or one person's judgment, excuse me, is as good as another.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But the point that I am trying to get to is that this \$7,000, what it would be spent for would not be items that are not essential to the Library Commission's work? It would be essential to what the Library Commission does. You mentioned microfilming and acquisition of materials, and so forth.

SENATOR WARNER: Yes, obviously, those kind of expenditures are essential to an operation of a library. Now, one can argue that whether 7,000, more or less, is the straw that breaks the back. I don't believe it probably is the straw that would destroy their operation, no.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, this is an amendment that I am going to address because of my feelings about books, documents, and other means by which you preserve things of value and pass on from one generation to the next. A society's culture is preserved not only through things that parents tell children and that grandparents tell grandchildren but by means of items found in a library for the preservation of information. Knowledge is power. Information is essential to knowledge. Knowledge may be the forerunner of wisdom because knowledge brings you in touch with your environment. It puts you in touch with people and places you may never be able to see with your own eyes, experiences that you may never have, and I know that the Library Commission is willing, able and has done for me, among others I am sure, obtained books that are not available in any of the public libraries here. They have obtained information. They have made copies of recording tapes and other things that I have not even mentioned that I think are very, very valuable. Again, the amount of money may seem small. Maybe there is only a symbolism here that since everything is going to be cut, even the repository of those things that pertain to the culture should be cut also. But there are some societies and some civilizations who place such a great store on retaining this kind of information that they will say, if the society were to be destroyed, the things that they would save, they mentioned some books, they will usually mention a teacher, some even mentioned, and I shouldn't say even, but a librarian, one who understands how to handle this information, organize it and dispense it to