

Select File which he has already agreed to do, that he is going to do, rather. I would suggest that we move it to E & R Initial right now. Thank you.

SENATOR MARVEL PRESIDING

SENATOR MARVEL: Senator Schmit, did you want to talk and then Senator Murphy.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, for a number of years we have argued about this issue and you have just seen a demonstration here of another instance when a large number of persons has said, yes, we want to do something for you but we don't want to do it right away. In the meantime, you can sweat it out yourself. We just don't have the funds. We have said state government is frugal. We have said state government is going to hold the line, that we are just going to pick and choose the expenses we want to pay and we are going to pass the rest on to you. And those of you who voted against the Lewis amendment, in future years as issues come up, you are going to find each time you are going to be reminded that we have to pick up another 3% of the welfare cost. It isn't going to make any difference if it is for something in Scottsbluff or Bellevue or Bellwood or anyplace else, it isn't going to make any difference if it is for people or property or what it is, I can tell you where I think it is going to be felt the most. It is going to be felt the most in those people that are least vocal. My good friends that think in some way the natural growth of economy is going to provide for it are kidding yourselves. Natural growth occurs at all levels at the same pace. We all live in the State of Nebraska, counties, cities, schools and the state. If there is a demonstrable need to do what we are doing here today, and I think there is, then the need is to do it now and to have done it at least in the manner in which Senator Lewis outlined. But there will come a time in the next legislative session and there will be a proposal, whether it is for ADC payments, whether it is for the University, whether it is for the Institute of Agricultural and Natural Resources, whatever it is, we are going to say and hear the same argument we heard from Senator Goodrich, the resources are limited, and at the same time, we are going to continue to point the finger at local government and we are going to continue to say, they are the spenders, and you are standing here today like humble people, begging for the indulgence of the administrative officer, afraid he is going to veto your bill. Well, great scott, let him veto it. That is his responsibility as an administrative officer and he has never shown any lack of inclination to exercise his responsibility and I admire him for it. The point that I want to make is this, that if you have any responsibility of your own, you exercise your own independent judgment and you let the chips fall where they may. In this instance, you have said, well, we are going to go along because that is all we have got the backbone to support. Senator Chambers hasn't handed out any backbone awards for awhile and I can see why. There are days there is not enough starch in the whole bunch of us to stiffen a shirt collar and Senator Chambers don't wear a shirt.

SENATOR MARVEL: A minute, Senator Schmit.