

May 1, 1979

LB 587

CLERK: 11 ayes, 12 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion lost. The amendment is not adopted. What's the next amendment?

CLERK: The next amendment is offered by Senator Keyes to amendment LB 587 as follows: To reduce all general fund expenditures for the University and state colleges by two percent.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of the amendment. About three years ago I tried for a five percent reduction in the budget of every general fund budget of every appropriation that we had in the budget bills. I was surprised at that time the number of votes that I got. When we brought it down to one percent, we didn't get quite as many votes. Now we can take two percent off of the general fund appropriation of every budget bill that goes for an entity of government, not... this won't affect the personal property tax. This won't affect state aid, or anything like that. This is just simply to say that those subdivisions, or those governmental operations that we perform and we fund the money for will take a two percent across the board. I think Senator Warner and the Committee have probably done as good a job as anybody could do, but the Governor of this state, and I traveled quite a bit with him last year. We were seen together several times, and then all the times that he was out he said he was going to hold the budget to five percent. Now I'm in favor of holding that budget to five percent. I understand this is between six and seven percent. We take two off from that we get it down to five percent increase. Also I have another amendment on the bill that's coming along that will take ten million and put it in schools, and I understand that's having a lot of trouble. But we can take that ten million and what we save here and we can cut taxes for the people across this state, something that they're interested in. It don't seem that there's many people on the floor of this Legislature interested in cutting taxes. I think most of them are going to be brought back to their seats. They're going to punch the red button because they've been accustomed to it this afternoon. We haven't been able to add anything to, but I do say this that for the benefit of the people of this state, we had better take some of the money and either cut their taxes or quit spending. We can take two percent off of this budget. That would be \$2,660,000. Senator Glen Goodrich, if you were as interested in cutting this as you are interested in getting a half a