

CLERK: Roll call vote, 22 ayes, 21 nays, 3 excused and not voting, 3 present and not voting, Mr. President. Vote appears on pages 1474-75 of the Legislative Journal.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Call is raised. Amendment on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beutler moves to amend the bill. Mr. President, Senator Beutler moves to amend LB 998 (Read Beutler amendment).

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, there is no magic in these numbers. Basically what the amendment does is reduce the appropriation by \$200,000. All I am doing is saying that there does seem to be some sentiment on the floor for reducing this somewhat. I don't know how you make heads or tails about how much it should be reduced, but this is simply a compromise that is some reduction, a significant reduction, \$200,000, but it doesn't go quite as far as Senator Schmit's. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Schmit, do you wish to speak on the Beutler amendment and Senator Warner, Senator Dworak and Senator Marsh.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I support Senator Beutler's amendment. I do not think that it is sufficient but it is a step in the right direction. I think that any time we can save a few hundred thousand dollars, we ought to do it. I know that you have another position which you will be taking a year from now, you will be looking at the old budget and you will be saying we had this much money in the budget last year and this is where we spring off from this time. So, if we can jump off from a base which is \$200,000 less than what is being proposed at the present time we will have made some gain. I believe that my amendment was a reasonable one. I believe that it is a serious mistake, a very serious mistake to expend this money for equipment. It adds to the fires of inflation. It adds fuel to an area where we can very ill afford it. I know that there are people here this afternoon who think that this is just a nit-picking exercise. Ladies and gentlemen, it is not. It is a very serious business and you had better take it seriously. I just really can not understand the budget committee when they take a position that once an amendment is adopted, that nine