

SENATOR WARNER: Since I have been chairman, and there may have been others. There are two that I recall because both times were a mistake, that is why I remember them.

SENATOR SIMON: They were a mistake? I rest my case. I think...I think...Senator Warner, I don't believe I have ever seen you that red before. I think that is the basic point that I wish to make on the floor, regardless or irregardless, Senator Murphy, as the case may be. Even though there may not be any formal brotherhood in terms of actually a bloodletting ceremony, it seems very clear to me, I think, and a number of other members on the committee that the Appropriations Committee and the Appropriations Committee alone has accepted this policy over the years, that they will stick together through thick and thin. It is not very hard to take a look when you see a particular amendment come across the board that when it was offered on a different bill and four members of that committee supported an additional increase in funds, and then today not only oppose that but even oppose the transfer because they were now members of the Appropriations Committee. It seems very clear to me what the policy is. So, I'm going to differ a little bit with my good friend Senator Chambers, in saying that we must take a look solely at what the particular amendment is before us. I think that it is a larger issue Senator Chambers, I think that it is an issue of whether or not one committee, a solid nine votes, is going to dictate to this Legislature just exactly what the total budget shall be. Now, Senator Warner, I wouldn't mind so much if you would answer the calls and the mail that I would have when this budget gets passed, but you won't, or Senator Hoagland or Senator Fowler, Senator Marsh, or the other members of the Appropriations Committee. I have to answer to those and even though I may have voted one way and the Legislature votes another, they view the collective body as a whole. It seems to me that on any other bill it isn't so sacred if we are on a bill from the Government Committee or if we are on a bill from the Public Health and Welfare Committee, if those who disagree and it comes out six-two and the minority has a right and has an obligation in effect to present their point of view and no other committee have I ever seen this done before. I understand that there is the concern that, this is what the Appropriations Committee members say, if we "Do not support the committee, then we will have total chaos on the floor of the Legislature." Well it seems to me that if what we are going to do is just merely have the Appropriations Committee pass what they want then the other forty of us can go home. I don't have to sit in my office, I can just go home and let the nine people vote.