

March 3, 1981

LB 206, 206A

that there are 49 members of this Legislature. I have here the stack of the bills so far, the A bills that are listed at the top of your worksheets that are going to be held up, and I know that when Senator Warner offered his motion at the earliest days of the Legislature that we bracket those A bills regardless of the impact, that there was a lot of activity on this floor and very few people understood what was going on. But once again we are falling right back into that same old routine and each succeeding day we march one nearer to the final days of the session and one of these days the budget committee is going to come to the floor with their budget and they are going to say, okay, folks now we have saved for the other 40 members of you \$1412 you can spend as you see fit. We have in our wisdom decided how to spend \$600 million or \$700 million and we have left you this \$1400 and you can jockey it around any way you like just as long as you stay within that amount, and we will be glad to go along with it, and we will approve it with some reservations, of course, but you try to tinker with that budget bill, we are going to descend on you with the full weight of the 9 members like we did last year. And I think you should recall what happened last year, and I think the members of the budget committee should recall what happened. I tried time after time to amend areas of the budget bill. My major contribution last year was to delete the \$7500 that Senator Kelly had put in the bill to be spent on unidentified flying objects. I think we all recognized that that was not a major contribution on my part last session. But that was all I was able to do, and the bill went to the Governor intact, and then Governor Thone, because he had some very serious reservations about the bill, took the meat cleaver to the bill and when Governor finished with the meat cleaver, it looked like a four year old kid had used it on George Washington's cherry tree, and it came back to this body, and this body, because we have our own way you know getting back at people, we supported the Governor's vetos, even though we probably didn't agree with all of them. But in any case, with a few major exceptions, as Senator Koch said, there were some alterations. But that didn't seem to me and I don't think it seemed to you at the time, nor did it seem to the members of the budget committee to be the most reasonable way to approach the process. Now if you are going to leave those A bills bracketed, then bear in mind that when the time comes to vote upon them, you are not going to be arguing as the impact upon the total expenditures of the state. You are only going to be arguing about those budget bills as they impact upon each other, I mean, those A bills, and the relationship