

March 3, 1981

LB 206, 206A

things as they come across the floor one at a time without any concept or any idea as to the total amount of money we are going to spend, whenever we see a goodie we like and we are going to buy it, there is no way we can possibly stay with any kind of fiscal responsibility whatsoever. We have to look at the total package and then make our priorities. We can't look at it from the perspective of the request. The requests, as many of you are finding out already, are unlimited and they are all worthwhile and they are all something everybody needs some place, but obviously, everybody can't get everything they want. And this body, come the day when we look at the budget and look at all the A bills, is going to be forced to do some extremely hard decision making and prioritization, and if we don't get the whole basket together where we can take a look at it, pick our priorities, take a look at existing revenues, there is no way we can make an intelligent decision. So I, as much as I am in favor of Senator Chambers and LB 206, because of this other issue that has been interjected into this debate, am going to have to vote against unbracketing.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: I call for the question.

PRESIDENT: All right, the question has been called for. Do I see five hands? Yes, I do, I see five hands. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed nay. Record the vote.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 3 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion carries. Debate ceases. Senator Chambers, you may close.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, let me try to say something very briefly and I hope you will hear what I am saying. There are undercurrents related to other bills that are flowing across the floor this morning. But remember this, if there are enough votes to unbracket any other bill, that will be done in disregard of what is done on this particular matter. On the other hand, those of you who don't want to unbracket any bills, I am sure each and everyone of you can see that this bill is unique and distinct from every other A bill on the board. It is a matter which did pass last year, as Senator Barrett pointed out, and was vetoed while we were out of session. There is nobody who can ensure that an appropriation bill will not be left for